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A

HISTORY

OF

EAST LEAKE.

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CHURCH OF ST. MARY, EAST LEAKE.

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A

History

OF

East Leake.

BY

Sidney Pell Potter, M.A.,

RECTOR.

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TO MY PARISHIONERS.

JUNE, 1903.

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Preface.

Three years ago the writer of this volume began to gather together facts and traditions concerning the parish committed to his charge. The immediate purpose was to give one or two lectures to such of his parishioners as cared to know more of the history and antiquities of the parish.

Two lectures were given at East Leake, and one at West Leake, and a gratifying interest was shewn in the village story. Some, who were present, expressed the hope that the lectures might appear in a permanent form.

It soon became manifest that the publication of the lectures in the form given would involve the omission of many historical facts which seemed worthy of publication: so it was finally decided to rewrite the matter, and illustrate it in the way in which it appears.

In preparing the work, the writer has endeavoured to follow the lines suggested in the excellent handbook of the Rev. Dr. Cox "How to write a Parish History."

Among the sources of information which have been searched for the present purpose, are the various records in the Record Office, and the treasures of information in the British Museum. Camden's "Britannia," Dugdale's "Monasticon," Thoroton's "Nottinghamshire," Cox's "Magna

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Britannia," Curtis' "Topography of Nottinghamshire," Godfrey's "Churches of Rushcliffe," and many minor works have been freely used, and numerous other books consulted.

Very great service has been rendered by "Oxoniensis," in making search in the Record Office and elsewhere; by the Rev. F. W. Ragg, who has contributed the extracts from the Duchy of Lancaster Court Rolls; and by many parishioners.

In gathering together traditions and field names, the help of Mr. John Oldershaw, of East Leake, has been invaluable.

The illustrations are chiefly from the camera of Mr. Arthur T. Creswell, to whom more than ordinary acknowledgments are due for his generous assistance. Thanks are also due to Mr. Harry Gill for the loan of the illustration of the trumpet; to Messrs. Methuen & Co., for the use of Bishop Davenant's portrait; to Mr. W. S. Weatherley for his etching of the exterior of the Church; to the Rev. R. O. Yearsley, for the photograph of the interior; to Mr. F. W. Milmine, for his etchings of the East interior and the font; and to others for the loan of photographs for reproduction.

The author will welcome kindly criticism, and will esteem it a service if his readers will forward additional matter bearing on the history of the parish, especially that of the Manors, with a view to a possible revision and expansion of his inadequate sketch.

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Contents.

CHAPTER		PAGE
I.	Loose Threads of Early History	1
II.	East Leake in Domesday Book	8
III.	The Manor History	16
IV.	The History of the Rectory	24
V.	Rectors, Assistant Clergy, Churchwardens, and Clerks	30
VI.	The Church	41
VII.	Church Books	59
VIII.	Parish Finance and Charities	65
IX.	Local Courts and Hirings	72
X.	Village Trades and Population	80
XI.	The Enclosure	84
XII.	Persons of Note	88
XIII.	Historical Notes and Local Stories	104
XIV.	Hill, Road, and Field Names	110

Appendixes.

Terriers of Church Lands	115
Travellers' Notes on East Leake	126
Corrigendum	127

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List of Illustrations.

	PAGE
Church of St. Mary, East Leake	*Frontispiece*
Map of the Parish of East Leake	
Back Yard	12
North Wall of Church, with Herring-bone work	14
John Davenant, D.D., Bishop of Salisbury, 1621-1641	33
Joseph Burton, Parish Clerk, 1822-1882	39
Ground Plan of Church	42
Font	43
Interior of Church, looking East	44
Interior of Church, looking West	48
Fragments of Screen	49
Poppy-head Seat, 15th Century	50
Seat, 17th Century	51
Seat, 17th Century	52
Carved Oak Pelican	54
Tin Trumpet, locally called "The Shawm"	55
The Chained Book	61
The Bley Endowed Free School	70
Old Smithy House, once the Three Horse Shoes Inn	73
Brookside	79
Plan of the Enclosure	85
Mr. Thos. Cooper Angrave	97
The Village Street	99
Mr. Richard Hawley, Schoolmaster	101
The Rev. John Bateman, Rector, 1836-1882	102

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Introductory.

East Leake is a village pleasantly situated upon a rivulet, near to the Western extremity of the South Wolds district of Nottinghamshire, ten miles South by West of Nottingham. It is in the parliamentary division of Rushcliff, and gives its name to the County Council district of Leake. The parish contains an acreage of 2,540 acres, and a population of 876, according to the census of 1901, with a rateable value of £4,939.

Owing to its situation near to the gap in the Wolds, between Stocking and Hotchley Hills, it was for centuries on the high road from Nottingham to Loughborough. In 1739 the present high road was adopted instead of the former one, and the highway through East Leake became a byway. The position of the village has been to some extent regained, for the same gap, which suggested a highway in the days long past, dictated the route of the Great Central Railway from Nottingham to London.

This altered position promises great things for the village, and East Leake may yet justify its old alternate name of Great Leake.

This sketch, however, is not prophecy, but an outline of the history of a village which has been the dwelling place of many generations, and as such is regarded by the families connected with it with the affection which is associated with the word *home*.

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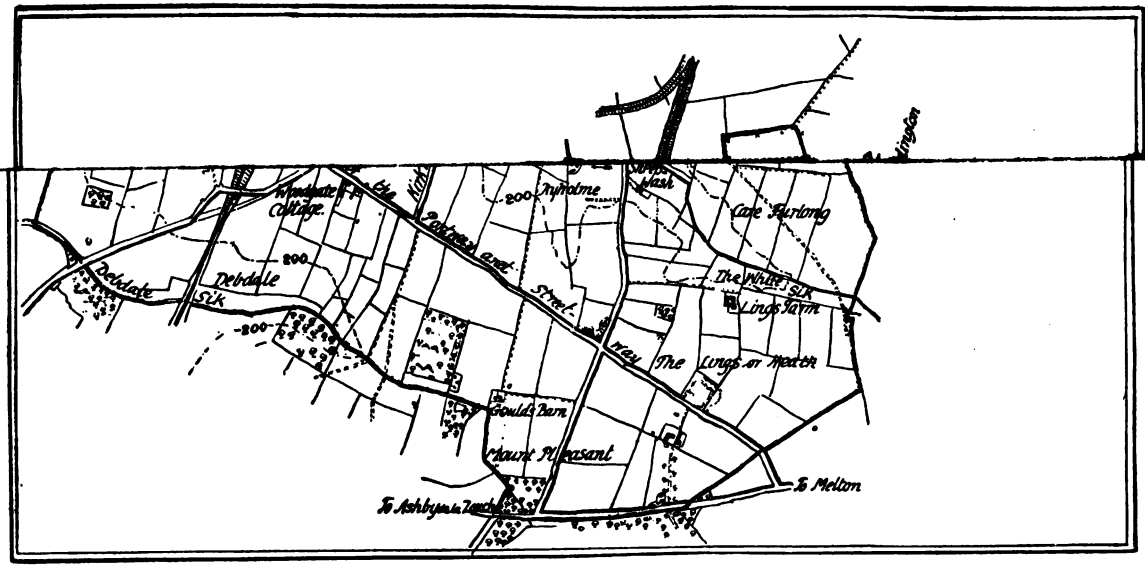

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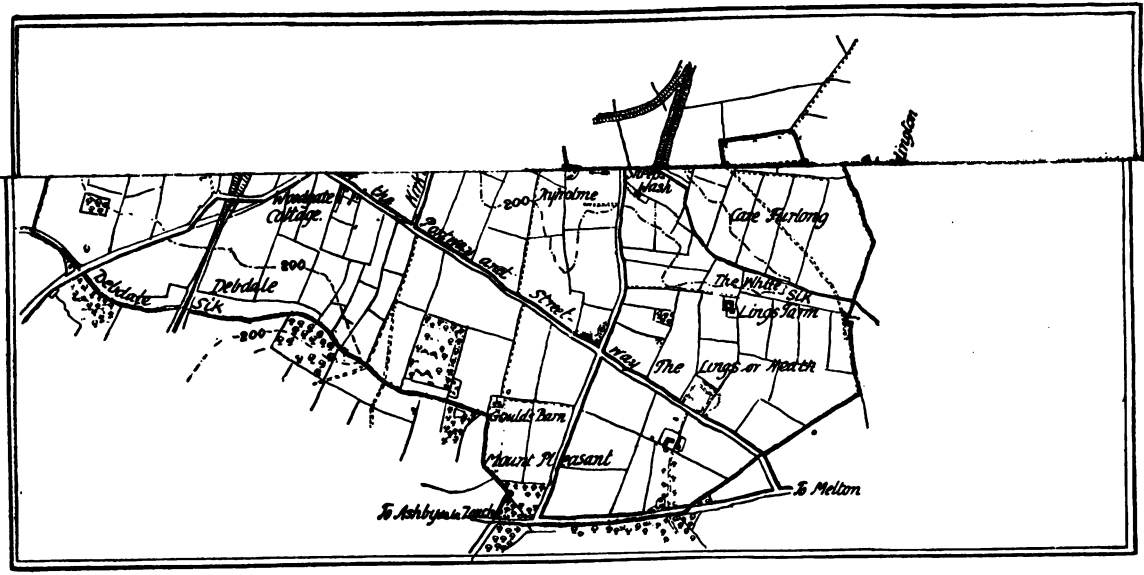

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CHAPTER I.

Loose Threads of Early History.

THE history of an English village cannot be written without some reference to the wider subject of national history, for many villages have links which connect them with the days of the Norman, Danish, or Saxon invasions; and some with the remoter times of the Roman Conquest, or even the original British settlement.

East Leake cannot claim to date back to these remoter times. Nevertheless, the district in which it is situated was inhabited by the Romans, and possibly even by the British inhabitants.

Little need be said of this possible connection of East Leake with British history, but it may be worth mentioning that some antiquarians have concluded that the earthworks on Brent's Hill, between Barton-in-Fabis and Gotham, are British, and that the mound which marks the site of the famous

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Cuckoo Bush is a barrow or burial place belonging to the same period. In the Domesday Book account of Leake—of which more will be said later on—there is a word used of an outlying portion of the village, which is capable of the interpretation *Barrow* Leake. If that could be proved a correct interpretation, there would be proof of a British burial in our midst.

We are, however, on much firmer ground when we pass to the period of the Roman occupation. East Leake lies between the almost parallel lines of two great Roman roads, the Fosse Way, which traverses the land from a point near Totnes, in Devonshire, in a North-Easterly direction to Lincoln, and the Ryknield Street, which commenced at Gloucester and ended near to Mexborough, in Yorkshire.

The position of East Leake, in relation to these roads, in itself makes it probable that there might be a cross road near, connecting the Roman Station at Little Chester by Derby, on the Ryknield Street, *i.e.*, with that near Willoughby-on-the-Wolds on the Fosse Way. Such a road almost certainly did exist, and ran through the parish East and West half-a-mile to the South of the village. This statement is confidently made on the evidence of the Terrier of 1748. In this two "ways" are mentioned, Portway in the Brickliffe Field, and Streetway in the Woodgate Field. Isaac Taylor[1] thus explains these names: "The Roman *strata*, or paved roads, became the Saxon *streets*. This word street often enables us to recognize the lines of Roman road, which, straight as an arrow course, connect the chief strategic positions in the island. . . . . Roman roads which do not bear the name of street are often called *Portways*."

Although no old parishioner can recall these "ways," they may almost certainly be identified with the road from the Rempstone boundary of the parish by the disused gravel pit, and the bridle road to Kegworth by Calke Hall, with which it is connected.

There are abundant traces of the Romans in the immediate neighbourhood, which combine to shew that East Leake

(1) "Words and Places," p. 167.

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was only just off the line of another road which ran from Leicester through Stanford, over the West Leake hills, across the Trent at Barton, and so to the North, skirting the Sherwood Forest. Bridle roads still mark the greater part of the course of the road South of the Trent, within tbe boundary of Nottinghamshire. This road is certified by four things, (1) the remains of a Roman villa at Barton, (2) the name of Cold Harbour Farm on the East border of Sutton parish, (3) the discovery of vessels of bronze Roman coins North of Stanford, during the construction of the Great Central Railway in 1894, and (4) by a tesselated pavement unearthed in Stanford churchyard, when the graves of Mr. H. Ratcliff and his little daughter were made in 1902. These are all upon the line of this Roman road.

In explanation of this statement a few remarks may be added. Isaac Taylor, quoted above, says: "The ruins of deserted Roman villas were no doubt often used by travellers who carried their own bedding and provisions, as is done by the frequenters of Khans and Serais in the East. Such places seem commonly to have borne the name of Cold Harbour. In the neighbourhood of ancient lines of road we find no less than seventy places bearing this name."

The discoveries at Stanford are not only interesting in themselves, but furnish proof that Camden's statement was correct, that Roman remains had been found at Stanford.

A later writer, the Rev. Thos. Cox, in Magna Britannia, A.D. 1720, comments on the statement in the following words: "Mr. Cambden . . adds that he was informed that there were many Remains of Antiquity yet extant, and many *Roman* coins found there. What Information Mr. Cambden had of such things as he mentions we can't imagine; 'tis almost certain it must be a false one; for though 'tis Possible, an Hundred Years ago, or more when Mr. *Cambden* lived, there might be some Antiquities observable, and Coins found, yet 'tis probable there never was; because, as we never meet with any since, so we have no author nor Antiquary that has either preserved any of the Coins, nor told us what Antiquities have

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been here discovered."

When the navvies turned up the pots of coins, and the grave-digger, the tesselated pavement, this controversy was decided in favour of Mr. Camden.

In A.D. 410, the Romans being hard pressed in their home regions, withdrew their forces from Britain. This action left the British people, untrained in the arts of government and war, at the mercy of the Northern tribes who inhabited Scotland, and the pirates who roamed the seas. The result was natural; the Angle and Saxon pirates, warlike and brave, took sure possession of our land. They sailed up the estuaries of the rivers, and then following the courses of the streams and their tributaries, marked out what territory each would take.

In this way the Angles may have come to Leake. If so, they landed in the Humber; they ascended the Trent; they passed up the Soar; they followed the course of the brook which joins the river at Kingston. The rich meadow land of this Wold Valley, and the abundant waters attracted them, and they settled where East Leake now stands, and doubtless fortified themselves against attack. The Fosse Way offered an alternate way of access from the Humber, and they may have come by this land route.

The new settlement needed a name. This was suggested by the brooklet and the brook which it feeds. It was a place of water. In the Anglo-Saxon tongue *leccian* meant "to water or moisten," so this place of water was called Leche or Lecche.

It has yet to be discovered when the Angles settled here. The extreme limits of time which guide to a decision are, the years 410 when the Romans left, and 1066 when the Normans came. The record of the village in Domesday Book leads to the suggestion that the Angles came here nearer the earlier than the later of these dates. The year 600 may be put forth as an approximate date for the commencement of this village history under its Anglo-Saxon name.

When the Angles came they were heathen, worshipping the Sun, Moon, Tuisco, Woden, Thor, Frya and Saetar—

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objects of worship made familiar to us by the names of the days of the week. Long after the surrounding tribes had accepted the Christian Faith, the Middle English of these parts —the kingdom of Mercia—clung to the worship of their false gods. This worship was offered on the hills above the villages or beneath some great spreading tree.

As it was the common policy of Christian missionaries to use existing sacred places, and dedicate them to Christian purposes, the site of the Church may be the place where heathen worship was offered. It is unknown when Leake became a Christian village. The acceptance of the Faith came about in the usual manner. Missionaries visited the district, hearers became believers, and baptisms—perhaps in the brook—followed. A simple Church of wood, or even wattle work, was erected, and soon a priest made this his home, being brought hither and supported by the gifts of the chief men. The Kingdom of Mercia became nominally Christian in A.D. 656, and as East Leake was not very far from the capital, Repton—as it is now called—it may be presumed that the Christian Faith soon after that date deposed the old heathenism.

The peace and quiet of this part of England was much disturbed in the 9th century by Danish invasions. In 868 the Danes forced their way into the district in which East Leake is situated, devastating the country through which they passed, burning churches and houses, and wiping out the signs of Anglo-Saxon civilization.

The country ceded to the Danes by King Alfred included Nottinghamshire, and from 878 this race of men predominated over the Angles in this County. There are numerous traces of their settlement in the South Wolds district, notably in such village names as Willoughby and Thorpe. Many of the field names of the villages in these parts are Danish. This is the case at East Leake.

In 925 this part of the old Kingdom of Mercia was recovered from the Danes by Æthelflæd, "The Lady of the Mercians," with the assistance of her brother, King Edward

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of the West Saxon kingdom.

In 1066 the Normans, under their Duke William, conquered this island, and by 1086 had so far subdued it that the King's commissioners could travel through the land and gather together the statistics which the King required. With this date the village of East Leake begins its recorded history, and this must form a new chapter.

VIEW OF VILLAGE FROM MILL HILL.

In passing from the chequered history of Anglo-Saxon times, it is natural to ask, whether we have any visible means of recalling that history. It may be pointed out that the Court Hill, where the business of Rushcliff Hundred was transacted, is known. Thoroton says:—"On the North side of this Lordship, on a knoll called Court Hill near the bounds of Gotham, about a flight shot from Cuckoo Bush the Hundred Court hath been kept." The ordnance map marks

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this spot, to which Leake representatives were periodically summoned for the local Parliament.

It is suggested that in the field name, "The Motts," is indicated the place where the Moot Court—the parish meeting of Anglo-Saxon days—was held. In Anglo-Saxon, *mot* means meeting. Here probably the freemen met for judgment, to make laws for the community, to choose their leaders, and the men who should follow their headman to the Hundred Court or to war.

It is tempting to explain the old custom of frequenting Mill Hill on Shrove Tuesday, as a continuation of some heathen custom, connected with the worship of the ancestral false deities. The same custom is met with at Costock and elsewhere—pointing to some general rather than local custom.

Many of the field, hill, and road names in the parish are Anglo-Saxon. The chapter on Field Names will furnish examples of Anglo-Saxon and Danish words.

The account of the Church will be found to suggest that in that one venerable building of the parish an Anglo-Saxon story can be read in stone.

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CHAPTER II.

East Leake in Domesday Book.

DOMESDAY BOOK—"the Book of Judicial Verdict"—was compiled between the years 1080-1086, at the instance of William the Conqueror. It records a survey made with the object of finding out what customary payments had been paid to the Crown by the manors. The Commissioners entrusted with this work came into the Hundred divisions of the counties, and empanelled juries, who on oath gave information as to the extent and nature of the estates, what sums were payable to the Crown before and after the Conquest, with other particulars which a transcript of the entries concerning Leake will illustrate.

It may be assumed that the jury which gave the necessary particulars of this Hundred met the royal commissioners at Court Hill. The records of that meeting so far as they concern the village of Leake are as follows:—

TERRA COMITIS MORITON'

M̄. In GATHĀ. hb. Stori. II. car' t'ræ 7[1] III. bou'..... In LECHE. II. bou' t'ræ ad gld. SOCA huj' M̄. Nil. ē ibi

(1) 7 is the sign for &, and not for seven.

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LAND OF THE COUNT OF MORETON.[1]

MANOR.—In Gotham Stori had two carucates of land and three bovates and a half of taxable land. . . . In Leake there are two bovates of taxable land.[2] Soke of this manor.[3] There is nothing there.[4]

This land plainly lay on the Gotham side of the parish.

TERRA ROGERII DE BUSLI.

M̄. In LECHE hb Godric. II. bou' t'ræ 7 $\frac{\text{tia}}{\text{III}}$ part uni' bou' ad gld. T'ra. IIII. boū. Ernulf' hō Rog' ht. II. car. 7 II. uill. cū dim' car. 7 VIII. acs p'ti. T.R.E. ual XL. sol. m̊ X sol.

LAND OF ROGER DE BUSLI.[5]

In Leake Godric had two bovates of land, and the third part of one bovate of taxable land. There is land for four oxen. Ernulf, Roger's man (tenant) has two carucates, and two villeins[6] with half a carucate, and eight acres of meadow.

In King Edward's[7] time the value was forty shillings, it is now ten shillings.[8]

TERRA HENRICI DE FEREIRES.

M̄. In LECCHE. hb. Siuuard. II. car' t'ræ ad gld. T'ra VI. car'. Ibi Henric' de ferrariis ht in dnio. IIII. car'. 7 XVI Soch. 7 XVI uill h'ntes XVII. car. Ibi pbr 7 æccla. 7 I. molin. II. solid. 7 L ac' p'ti. 7 Siluæ min'. II. qz. lg. 7 I. lat. T.R.E. ual. VI. lib. m̊ VII lib.

Ad hoc Man' adjacet BEREW' Lecche, ubi sunt II car' t'ræ ad gld. H' jacet in pluntre hund'

LAND OF HENRY DE FERRERS.

MANOR.—In Leake Siward had two carucates of taxable land. There is land for six ploughs. There Henry de Ferrers

---

(1) The Count of Moreton or Moretain was Robert, half-brother of William I.

(2) A carucate of land was as much as eight oxen could plough, and was generally 120 acres. A bovate was as much as one ox could plough, an eighth of a carucate.

(3) Soke means outlying property dependent upon the manor.

(4) "There is nothing there" probably means none of the required particulars.

(5) Roger de Busli's male line ended in 1213, when Idonea, daughter and heir of his grandson, married Robert de Vipont, a baron adhering to King John, who died 12 Henry III. She died 25 Henry III. Her grandson was the last of his race.

(6) Villeins were men bred and born in the village of servile condition, who were regarded as belonging to the land.

(7) King Edward, the Confessor, the last Saxon King.

(8) This land lay in East Leake.

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has in demesne four carucates, and sixteen sokemen,[1] and sixteen villeins having seventeen carucates. There is a priest, and a church, and one mill worth two shillings (per annum), and fifty acres of meadow, and underwood two roods (quarters) long and one broad. In King Edward's time it was worth six pounds, now seven pounds.

To this manor Berewick[2] (or Borough or Barrow) Lecche (Leake) is adjacent, where are two carucates of taxable land. This lies in Plumtree Hundred.[3]

TERRA ROBERTI FILII WILLI.

M̄ In STANFORD. hb. Ælfag. X. bou' t'ræ ad gld. T'ra IIII. car'. Ibi Robt' filius Willi ht. I. car. 7 IIII. Soch' 7 VII. uill .....

S̄ In LECHE Stantone. I. bou' t'ræ ad gld. T'ra. IIII. boū. Ibi. II Soch hnt. I. car'. Ad Stanford ptin'.

MANOR.—In Stanford Ælfage had ten bovates of taxable land. There are four carucates of plough land. There Robert son of William has one carucate and four sokemen and seven villeins.

SOKE.—In Stanton belonging to Leake there is one bovate of taxable land. There are four bovates of plough land. There two sokemen have one carucate. It belongs to Stanford.[4]

Assuming that the area of the Domesday parish of Leake is the same as that of East and West Leake of to-day, it amounted to about 4,130 acres. 3,090 were thus under cultivation, and there were fifty-eight acres of meadow land. The remaining 982 acres were waste and unreclaimed. Some of this land remained in this condition until the Enclosure. This record shews that a much larger area was under cultivation after than before the Conquest.

The population as enumerated is only thirty-six, but it may be taken for granted that these thirty-six, with the

(1) Sokemen were tenants bound to certain services to their lord.

(2) If BEREW' is Berewick it means an outlying farm, if Borough it may refer to a Burh, or fortified place. It may stand for Barrow, a burial mound.

(3) This land lay chiefly in East Leake, but included West Leake.

(4) This entry seems to refer to Stanton in Leicestershire, now Staunton Harold, with which place Leake was connected by ties of ownership.

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possible exception of the priest, were heads of houses. If the moderate number of five persons to a household be assumed, the actual population was 180.

Only one of these is named, Ernulph, the Steward of Roger de Busli.

It is plain enough that there was only one Leake in 1086, and one church. Was this East or West Leake? It will have been observed that there is a sort of appendix to the most important of the four entries about Leake in the Domesday Book. In this entry BEREW' LECCHE is mentioned. If this can be identified, then LECCHE can also be identified, for it is described as adjacent, or near to it.

Usually BEREW' is the short form of Berewick, an outlying farm belonging to a manor, and it is prefixed in the margin of Domesday with B̄ as manor is prefixed by M̄. In this instance there is no prefix, giving ground for thinking that it means Barrow or Borough. Whichever interpretation is given, this place must be located on the East side of the parish, for it was in Plumtree Hundred—a Hundred now absorbed in Rushcliff—and Plumtree is more or less East of Leake. At the East end of East Leake at the bottom of Castle Lane and Back Yard there was, down to the middle of the 19th century, a pool known as Borough Pool; this agrees with the location of BEREW' LECCHE in the East of the parish. If the "Borough" interpretation of the word BEREW' s correct, this Site East of East Leake would be made sure, for in the field nearest to Borough Pool is an extensive well-defined earthwork, which may be regarded as part of an ancient burh or fortified enclosure.

The geographical note of Domesday Book combined with this pool name gives a strong presumption in favour of locating BEREW' LECCHE at the "Castle" end of the village of East Leake. If this may be assumed, LECCHE must be located near enough to be described as "adjacent." The West or Church end of East Leake, one-third mile distant, corresponds with this term. West Leake certainly does not, being two miles away.

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BACK YARD.

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This identification of East Leake with the LECCHE of Domesday Book is confirmed by other evidence.

1. In the manor history it is found that Earl Robert Ferrers, third of his line, disposed of the manor of West Leake to a family named Touk, and that village is called "de Touk's Leake" in contrast to "Earl Ferrers' Leake, where the mother church is." This certainly appears to locate the mother church—and consequently parish—at East Leake.

2. The church at East Leake is thought by some archæologists to have Saxon work in the North wall. If this is correct, we have immediate proof that this is the church of Domesday Book, and that the village there described is the village of East Leake.

3. As early as 1280 East Leake was known as *Great* Leke, a name which suggests a parent rather than a daughter village.

The "wood" of Domesday cannot be traced, but its direction can be told, for the name of the Normanton-road—"Woodgate"—gives it. "Wood" is Saxon in origin. "Gate" is Danish for way or street, so Woodgate is the way to the wood. The wood must therefore have been situated at some little distance South South-East of the village.

The mill mentioned in the same record cannot with certainty be located. It may possibly have stood on the West side of the little brook at the point where the Bunny footpath diverges from that to Gotham, where foundations of a building are still visible, together with traces of ancient walling on the East side. In those days all buildings would be, as far as possible, within the mound or fortification which surrounded each Saxon village.

The name Leake has passed through many changes in form—Leche, Lecche, Leca and Leica (Latin forms), Lec, Lek, Leyk, Leyke, Leke, Leek, Leak, and lastly Leake. It will be observed from this list that the long E sound has triumphed over the short E sound.

The names of the two separate parishes appear in this sequence, Earl Ferrers Leche and Jordan de Toc's Leke, Ester

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NORTH WALL OF CHURCH, WITH HERRING BONE WORK AND SMALL WINDOW.

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Leke and Wester Leke. Great Leyke and Little Leyke, and lastly East Leake and West Leake.

Variants, such as Est and Easter[1] Leke, are met with. It is still not uncommon to meet with those who speak of Great and Little Leake.

With a railway station, and a post and telegraph office, the spelling may be considered as finally fixed.

(1) Isacc Taylor, in "Words and Places," places "Easterleake in Notts" among those places whose names may have been derived from Eostre (whence our word Easter) the Anglo-Saxon goddess of spring. This is plainly an error which local knowledge would have avoided.

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CHAPTER III.

The Manor History.

The history of the manor, or, to be exact, the manors of Leake is far from being clear, and this sketch does not lay claim to give a complete account of it. The very beginnings of the history are involved in uncertainty, and as time goes on and ownerships multiply, it becomes more and more difficult to disentangle the threads which come to hand.

In the time of Edward the Confessor—*i.e.*, just before the Conquest—the manors in the ancient and undivided parish of Leake were held by Godric, a Saxon, perhaps an hereditary holder, and Siward, a man of Danish birth.

We should like to be able to identify Godric with the brave Sheriff of Berkshire who fell at the Battle of Senlac; but this can only be suggested as a possible identification. Cox[1] says that Siward was the famous Earl of that name. This man was a soldier in high place in the Danish ranks, and was connected by marriage with the leaders in Church and State. He is brought to notice by a deed of blood, of which he was guilty. His wife's uncle Eadwulf was Earl of Northumbria. Siward, for some reason, shed this

(1) Mag. Brit.

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man's blood. It may have been in order to remove him from a position which he himself coveted. It is certain that upon the death of Eadwulf, Siward was appointed Earl of Deira, a territory lying between the Tees and the Humber, and forming the Southern part of Northumbria. An Earl was then no merely honorary or titular person, but was responsible for the government, order, and wellbeing of the people within the bounds of his Earldom.

Siward governed his Earldom so well, that when the Northern part of Northumbria fell vacant, that portion—Bernicia—was placed under his rule. It is most probable that the chief manor of Leake was part of the reward which this soldier received for services rendered to his King. Earl Siward died in 1055.[1] A story is told about his death which shews what manner of man he was. When he knew that he was dying, he sent for his armour and put it on; for he said that he wished to die like a soldier, and not "like a cow." So, armour-clad, this brave old soldier died.

Siward was, for the times in which he lived, a man of high character, brave and true, and it must be added, not without religious feelings. He built a minster at a place named Galmanho, just outside the walls of the city of York, and dedicated it to St. Olave. In later times this became the Abbey of St. Mary—now in ruins. There stands to-day a church of St. Olave close to the site of Earl Siward's foundation.

The Norman Conquest affected the owners of the manors more directly than any other class of the population. These were displaced by the followers of William the Conqueror. How much of hardship lies behind those terms in Domesday Book "Godric *had*, etc. . . . Ernulf, Roger's man, *has*, etc." "Siward *had*, etc. . . . Henry de Ferrers *has*, etc."!

The lesser manor of Godric passed to Roger de Busli, who received from the Conqueror no less than 174 manors in this county of Nottinghamshire; the greater manor passed

(1) This date makes Cox's identification a doubtful one; for there must have been another lord of the manor before the end of Edward's reign.

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from Siward to Henry de Ferrers, whose chief grants of land lay in Derbyshire. Roger de Busli lived at Tickhill in Yorkshire, where was his chief castle, but occasionally he resided at Blyth in North Nottinghamshire. Henry de Ferrers built a large castle at Tutbury in Staffordshire, and made that his home.

The ascertained history of the manors from this time is limited to that of Henry de Ferrers. Roger de Busli passed his manor either to de Ferrers or some unknown person.

THE MANOR OF WEST LEAKE.

It will be well to trace the West Leake manor history, even though this is a transgression beyond the bounds of East Leake. Some time before 1166 the manor which now constitutes West Leake, passed from the de Ferrers family to another, which appears to be Norman, the family of de Toc or Touk—which is one of the names in Hollinshed's "Roll of Battle Abbey," and is perhaps represented by the modern name of Tuke. From this time West Leake, thus early a village so named, is called "de Toc's Leke."

After holding this manor for 100 years the family of Touk disposed of their rights to Ralph Bugg, of Nottingham. The date of this transfer appears to be 1280.

This family retained the property in a succession of heirs male until these failed on the death of Baldwin Bugg in 1435. It then passed by the marriage of Margaret Bugg, sister of Baldwin, to Richard Turvile.

In 1516 Henry Turvile sold the manor to John Manners, who sold it to Francis Harwar two years later.

Francis Harwar exchanged it in 1594 with Richard Mansfield for Dane Hall at Caunton, near Newark. The manor passed by marriage from the Mansfields to the Chadwicks.

In the 18th century it was purchased by the Willoughby family, who were of the same family as the Buggs of earlier times.[1] Lord Middleton sold the estate to the Right Hon.

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(1) Cox—Mag. Brit.

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Edward Strutt, afterwards Lord Belper, in whose family it remains.

A small portion of West Leake parish was not included in the manor of West Leake. This smaller holding can be traced at one time in the hands of the Leeks, and at another of the Stapletons. In 1600 Bartholomew Rag and George Bird, tenants, purchased the land they tilled from John Stapleton. In 1720 these families were still in possession. In 1796 the Birds are found still possessed of lands. The lord of the manor must have acquired these small properties at a subsequent date, for the whole parish of West Leake is now in the hands of the present owner, Lord Belper.

These lands were always held subject to the Manor of West Leake. The ancient acknowledgment to the lord of the manor was "17 pence yearly, or 13 pence and a Pair of Spurs."

THE MANORS OF EAST LEAKE.

The manorial history of East Leake is more intricate than that of West Leake, because three manors have to be traced.

The same Earl Robert de Ferrers, grandson of the grantee, who enfeoffed the Touks at West Leak, enfeoffed the Leake family at East Leake. The transaction is thus recorded by Thoroton, who saw the written account of it about 1675. "Robert (de Ferrariis, Grandchild of Henry, before named) Earl of Nottingham gave to Alan de Leca, the nephew of Elfast, the Town of LECHE, where the Mother Church is, with all the Appurtenances, and twelve Bovats of land in his the said Earl's Leche, which were the said Alan's Parents, and in *Stantun*, as much as belonged to the said Earl's Fee, and divers other lands in the County of *Leicester;* for which the said Alan gave the Earl sixty Marks, and a certain bay Horse." This sale may have taken place as early as 1140, for in the following year this Alan was a chief witness of Earl Robert's confirmation of a certain gift of Tithes to Tutbury Monastery. He is there named as Alan de Leca—a designation which suggests that he was lord of a manor.

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SHIRLEY'S MANOR.

One branch of the Leakes settled at Stanton in Leicestershire, and took their name from their new home; while another branch settled in the Scarsdale district of Derbyshire, at Sutton. In both cases manorial rights were retained at East Leake.

In the case of the Stantons the connection with East Leake was maintained until "the Heir general . . carried that Manor to the family of Shirley" in 1460, through the marriage of Ralph Shirley, ancestor of the present Earl Ferrers, with Margaret, daughter and sole heiress of John de Stanton. In consequence of this descent the manor came to be known as Shirley's Manor. Sir Thomas Parkyns, of Bunney, purchased this from the Shirleys about 1700.

This manor lay on the West side of the village. It is now broken up into smaller freeholds.

COSBY'S MANOR.

A second manor, known in later times as Cosby's Manor, cannot be traced with the same accuracy in its descent from family to family as the two hitherto mentioned.

This manor appears to have formed part of the chief manor, which passed from Earl Ferrers to the Leakes. It is certain that a manor was settled in 1415 on one Roger Pare and Joan his Wife and their heirs. It is presumable that this was done by one of the Leakes or Stantons.[1] In 1479 "Thomas Stanton the elder, of Sutton-Bonynton-upon-Sore, Esqr passed his Manor in Esterleke to . . Ralp Pare and Roger, amongst many others, viz: Sir Richard Neele, the Justice, John Babington, Esqr, Chr. Neele, etc."

A quaint piece of information is given concerning one "Raph Pare, of Great Leake, in the County of Nott. Yeoman." This Raph was outlawed, in the county of Stafford, for debt in 1452, but the outlawry was annulled in the following year

(1) See the reference to Tutbury below. Tutbury is the link with the Earl Ferrers' estate. Thoroton says that "Cosbyes (manor) in Great Leke is of the Fee of Tutbury."

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"because the said Ralph alledged and the Jury found, that he was a Gentleman born."

Raph Pare's daughter, Isabell, married Robert Cosseby (or Cosbe), and the Manor passed to her in 1482. At her death in 1543, she was owner of this manor, her name now being Griffith. Her property is specified as "a manor in Great-Leake or Easterleke, and five messuages, three cottages, one Hundred acres of arable land, forty acres of meadow and thirty of Heath, and 4s 4d Rent of Assize, in Great Leak, held of the Honour of Tutbury, by the Service of the twentieth part of a Knight's Fee and 6s 8d Rent."

At that date (1543) her grandson, Richard Cosbe, was heir, and was 26 years old.

The estate soon after passed (through the Stapletons?) into the hands of the family of Armstrong, of Rempstone, whose property adjoined the Heath or Lings district. The Armstrongs sold the manor to Sir Thomas Parkyns.

The Manor House of Cosby's Manor is the gabled farm house on the South of the village, now owned by Mr. Towlson.

This manor is no longer a complete one, but, having been sold in portions, is in various hands.

JOICE'S MANOR.

There remains a third manor in East Leake, known as Joice's or Joyce's Manor. The manor house is that which John Bley erected. It is probable that the original house stood where the present Manor Farm stands. The manor name is still retained in the name of the field West of the railway station—"Joice's Bush."

Thoroton speaks of a Robert de Jorce (? Joice) Knight, who in 1331 executed a deed at East Leake settling on "Sir John de Leek, Parson of the Church of Humberston, and Richard his son and the heirs of the body of Richard 39s 1d ob. with the Appurtenances in Esterleke together with the homages and services of Sir William de Staunton etc. etc."

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This document may be the key to the manor history, which otherwise is not plain. Assuming this to be the case, it may be concluded that as early as the 14th century the family of Joice held a manor.

Whence it came to them is not known, but as it is not named as "of the Fee of Tutbury," it may have come indirectly from Roger de Busli, and so from Godric, the Saxon.

It is no plainer whither it passed; but in the early part of the 18th century it came to John Bley, most probably by purchase, and so by family connection to the Hardys. In the 19th century a portion of the manor, with the house, was sold to Mr. Joseph Burchnall, and at his death the land was broken up into plots, and the manor as such obliterated.

Shirley's, Cosby's, and Joice's manors may originally have embraced all the East Leake land with the exception of those portions held under the manor of Gotham on the North side, and on the South of the parish those under the manor of Stanford. There are, however, traces of ownerships at an early date which suggest that there were other owners than these lords of Manors.

Among these owners were:—

1209 Reginald de Cardoil who then disposed of three virgates, and twenty-two acres in Abbotrewong.

1220 circa. Philip de Cortingstoke—"in Leake field called chanoyneshokes."

1270 Hugh Wake had a Knight's fee—*i.e.*, land from 100 acres upward, being as much as would maintain himself and retinue. The inhabitants afterwards held this land.

1280 John of Beningworth, as a landowner in the parish, claimed (with others) the right of patronage to the Rectory, presumably as believing that he represented one of the original patrons.

1290 Hugh Lokesley, and Robert Cortlingstock engage in a suit over certain lands.

1301 Galfred Bugg (lord of W. Leake) had one messuage,

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one mill, five-and-a-half bovats of land, seven acres of meadow.

1310 Henry Lacy Earl of Lincoln, and Margery Longspee, "formerly his wife," held half a virgate of land.

1320 Richard de Potiller had eight messuages, four virgates, and one virgate.

1326 Galfred de Bingham had land.

1329 Wm. and Joan Bigg had rents.

1346 Wm. Umfrey (whose will is mentioned by Torre) probably had land.

1362 R. Wiloughby had rents.

1369 Henry Green held lands, and owned rents.

1376 Galfred Bugge had lands.

1383 John Crophull held 30/- rents.

1400 Hugo de Lokele had lands.

1472 John Benet had lands.

1509 John Turvyle had lands.

1522 Sir John Leek had lands.

1578 Henry and Alice Stevenson sold land to Thomas Cole and Ralph Patricke.

„ William and Mary Borowes sold land to William Mondaye.

In Henry VIII.'s Commissioners' Report on Recent Enclosures, there is only one named at Leake, a field of seven acres, enclosed by John St. Andrew, Lord of Gotham. This enclosure dated from 10 Henry VII. The St. Andrews consequently owned land in the parish. This field may be identified with that in Lord Howe's possession, situated in the midst of Hotchley Moors.

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CHAPTER IV.

The History of the Rectory.

In the Domesday Record there is a church and a priest at Leake. Before the Conquest the priest was, no doubt, maintained by the lord of the manor, Siward, to whom, in a certain sense, the Church belonged, and at the time of the Record by his Norman successor. The usual form of maintenance was by tithes of produce.

With the extension of the parish, and the separation of the West Leake manor, there came about a division of the parish into the two parishes of East and West Leake; each lord of a manor wishing to have his own church and priest. But in 1206 we find that "the Church of Leke"[1] was held in two equal parts. Gilbert de Riggeby was the patron of one part.

It is most likely that some of the grants made to various monastic foundations were made at the expense of the Rectory. We have an instance in the grant of a pension of forty shillings, in 1227, out of the Rectory, to Repton to relieve its poverty.

In 1280 the advowson of the living was determined to

(1) This implies that there was then only one church, but two Rectors. Apparently the second church was erected later.

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belong to the Prior of Repton, notwithstanding the claims of John de Benningworth, Elias de Staunton, and Galfred, son of Ralph Bugg. The value of the benefice at that time was £30 per annum.

In 1291 (Taxation of Pope Nicholas IV.) "the Chapel of Tuttesbury" had a charge of £5 on the Rectory of Leake. The living is taxed at 57½ marks, or £38 6s. 8d.

In 1306 Sir Henry Sutton was Rector of St. Leonard's of Lek, indicating that the parishes of East and West Leake were held separately at that time, as in 1317, when Cardinal Reymund de Fargis was "Parson of Great Leke."

In 1340 the 9th sheaf, fleece and lamb were worth £20. In addition to this the church property was two carucates (*i.e.*, 240 acres or thereabouts) of plough land and ten acres of meadow—this glebe being worth ten marks or £6 14s. 4d. The tithe of hay was worth 40/-, and the altar offerings 14½ marks, or £9 13s. 4d., making a total value of £38 7s. 8d.

In 1376 Galfred Bugge, Lord of Leyk, made a feoffment of all his lands to the Parson.

In 1535 "Leke Rectory" is valued thus:—House in West Leake with glebe 40/- per annum; a messuage with glebe in East Leake 16/- per annum; oblations 26/8; tithes and Easter dues 46/-; tithes of wool and lambs £8; tithes of sheaves and hay £13 6s. 8d.; tithes of flax, hemp, little pigs, pigeons, chickens, and eggs 20/-; a total of £28 14s. 4d. gross.[1] The outgoings were; To the Archbishop of York for synodals 6/-; to the Archdeacon of Nottingham for procurations 7/6; to the Prior of Repton, pension £2; to the Prioress of the Minoresses, without Aldgate, annual portion 17/4. The net income being £25 3s. 6d.

The Parliamentary Commissioners, of 1650, reported the benefice to be of the annual value of "one hundred four score and five pounds."

The terrier of church lands in 1748 is printed in the appendix.

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(1) The living had declined more than 25 per cent. since 1291. Most English livings also declined at that time.

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In 1795 the net value was "about £300."

The allotment made in 1801 in lieu of Glebe and Tithes may be seen in the appendix.

In 1835 the net value was £719.

The net value of East Leake when separated from West Leake in 1882 was £350 without a Rectory house. In 1901 it was £396 with house.

In order to make a true comparison of values, there must be due regard paid to the continuous changes in the purchasing power of money. Roughly speaking, the value of money was fairly stationary between 1291 and 1535, at, say, twelve times its present value.

GRANTS OF LANDS TO MONASTERIES.

Alan de Lec, with the consent of his son and heir, Henry, gave certain lands in West Leake to the Canons of Calc (Calke) somewhere about 1161. Other gifts soon followed from Leke (East Leake), for, later, the same Alan, and Harald and Richard, his son, are found to have confirmed "the Church of Leke" to those Canons—the land then being one carucate or 120 acres in extent.

The same Harald gave three acres of meadow to Calke.

About the same time—cir. 1175—William Earl Ferrers, as Earl Robert had done before him, gave to Bredon (which had been founded by Earl Robert) 20/- out of West or Jordan de Toc's Leke.

Harald of Leke and Alan his son (second of the name) must have given lands to Garendon about the time when Harald confirmed the grants to Calke, for William (the first Earl of that name) de Ferrers is found confirming the gift of Harald de Leca, and Alan his son.

About 1220 Philip de Cortingstoke granted all his lands in Leke field at a place called Chanoynes hokes to Garendon Abbey. The document is preserved,[1] and is as follows:—

"Philip of Cortingstoke to all sons of holy Mother Church who see or hear this charter, greeting.

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(1) British Museum M.SS., Campbell xv. 14.

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Be it known that I have given and by this present charter confirmed (as a gift) to God and the Church of the Blessed Mary of Garendon and to the Monks there serving God, for the well being of my soul and the souls of all my ancestors and heirs in simple and perpetual charity all the land which I had in Leke field in the place called Chanoynes hokes. It is that which I bought of Hugh de Lokele.

I give it to be held and had free and quit from every secular service and claim. Even so that no charity could be given and held more free and quit. And I Philip and my heirs will vouch for the said land to the said monks as our special gift, against all men for ever. In testimony of this act I confirm these presents with the impression of my seal. With these as witnesses—Robert son of Umfrey de Leke, Nicholas son of Henry, William the Smith, Roger son of William, Ganfred Godebert, Robert Rosel and many others."

In 1276 Repton held nine bovates of the fee of Ferrers by the gift of Lucy Montgomery.

An exchange of land may be noted, the Canons of Repton giving two virgates and one bovate of land at West Leake for the equivalent at Sutton, and Sutton Bonington. "Robert of Nottingham" was the other party to this exchange.

In 1291 the "Chapel of Tuttesbury" had a charge of £5 upon the Rectory of Leake, "which the nuns of the Minories without Aldgate, London, held."[1]

At the same time Dale Abbey had property in West Leake; and Repton in both East and West Leake.

St. Mary de Pratis Priory extra Northampton at the same time had land value 10/- in Leake.

A charter of King Edward II. of the date 1325 confirms the gift of Harald of Leke to the monks of Calke "now serving God at Repton."

In 1535 Garendon held 16/- rents of meadow land in Great Leke.

At "The great Pillage" these lands in East Leake belonging to Garendon were granted by Henry VIII. to

(1) Curtis, "Topographical Account, &c."

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Thomas Earl of Rutland. The Repton lands were granted to Sir John Porte, from whom they passed by marriage to the Hastings. The advowson of the Rectory passed to that family, together with the lands.

THE PATRONAGE OF THE CHURCH.

A description of the church as a Rectory so early as Domesday would be incorrect. Up to that time the Anglo-Saxon land-owners presented a clerk of their own choice. The patron of a mediety of the Rectory in 1206 was Gilbert de Riggeby, the other mediety being in all likelihood in the patronage of the Prior and Convent of Repyngdon, or Repton as it is now called. Gilbert had not been able to exercise his patronage, as the following document under King John's seal will show. "The King to all etc. . . . Know that we have granted to Gilbert de Riggeby patron of a mediety of the Church of Leke that he twice yielded to our petition that mediety viz once to Sir J. de Well' now elect Bp : of Bath, and on another occasion to W. de Gray our Chancellor, and that we will not again ask him (for the patronage) when the next vacancy occurs. He many confer it on any one. And in testimony of this . . . . In the presence of P. Bp: of Winchester and J. Bishop elect of Bath. Given at . . . the 9th day of May in the 7th year of our reign."

The Prior and Convent appear alone as patrons until 1308. In 1280 this right of patronage was challenged by John de Beningworth, Elias de Staunton, and Galfred, son of Ralph Bugg, but upheld.

During the vacancy in the office of Prior, Edward III. presented. In 1387 Thos. de Sutton was patron, and in 1404 John Manners, but probably only of a mediety, as the Prior and Convent of Repton are found presenting in 1441, 1458, and 1462. John and Richard Fitzherbert present in 1473, and as their nominee was William Fitzherbert, it looks like a case of purchasing the next presentation for a relative whom they wished to serve.

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Repton presents again in 1476, and in 1517 for the last time.

At the suppression of Monasteries, Sir John Porte received the Repton lands at West Leake and the advowson of the two parishes. He presented once only, in 1554. In 1567 the Archbishop of York (? through lapse) presented,[1] but the advowson, which came into the family of Hastings by marriage, remained with them until purchased by the Rev. John Bateman, with the exception that in 1662 Gervas Pigott, of Thrumpton, presented. The next presentation appears to have been bought in at least one instance, when Frances Stanhope presented her son Michael.

Mr. Bateman sold the advowson in two portions in 1876,[2] that of West Leake to Lord Belper; that of East Leake to the Rev. G. A. Sneyd. East Leake within a few years passed successively to Walter Evans, Esq., the Rev. G. B. Atkinson, and George Henry Angrave, Esq., in whose hands the patronage remains.

(1) Nottinghamshire was in the Archdiocese of York until 1837.

(2) London Gazette, 4th April, 1876.

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CHAPTER V.

Rectors, Assistant Clergy, Churchwardens, and Clerks.

RECTORS.

DATE OF INSTITUTION.	NAME AND DESCRIPTION.
7 April 1229 28 Nov. 1231	Henry de Gray, priest Patron—Prior and Convent of Repton.
6 Feb. 1240	John de Vavasour, clerk Patron—Prior and Convent of Repton.
7 July, 1245	Walter de Vavasour, clerk Patron—Prior and Convent of Repton.
24 May 1251	Henry le Vavasour,[1] clerk. Died 1280 Patron—Prior and Convent of Repton.
24 Nov. 1281	Roger de Hengham,[2] priest Patron—Prior and Convent of Repton.
25 Dec., 1298	Henry de Sutton, subdeacon. Promoted. Patron—Prior and Convent of Repton.

(1) He was Prebendary of Norwell Palishall at Southwell.

(2) The delay in presentation was owing to rival claims to the patronage. In this Rector's time the valuation of benefices was made consequent upon Pope Nicholas IV. granting the Tenths to Edward I. for the purpose of meeting the expenses of a crusade. The valuation was completed in 1291.

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17 Jan., 1308 8 Feb., „	Reymond de Fergis,[1] cardinal deacon of St. Mary Nova.
18 Apl., 1347	Robert de Clypston, clerk. Patron—Edward III., during vacancy in Priory of Repton.
1347	Hugh de Wymundeswold[2] (Wymeswold)
18 Jan., 1364	Thomas de Bildeston, chaplain. Patron—Prior and Convent of Repton.
(?) 1387	Roger de Pickering,[3] incumbent. Patron—Thomas de Sutton.
Nov., 1404	John de Barford[4] (or Bereford), priest. Patron—John Manners, jun.
3 Jan., 1441	John Torald, priest, resigned for the Rectory of Rempstone. Patron—Prior and Convent of Repton.
3 Jan., 1458	Fr. Ric. Mysin, Bp. of Dromore,[5] d. 1462. Patron—Prior and Convent of Repton.

(1) He was appointed Archdeacon of the West Riding of York, 1307, and Prebendary of Wetwang, in York, 11 August, 1307, and held it three years. He was also Parson of Hornsea, Yorks., Dean of Salisbury, Archdeacon of Leicester, Prebendary of Heghtredbury and Mere, in Salisbury Cathedral, and Prebendary of Lincoln. In 1317, he was granted "protection for three years as Parson of Great Lek," etc. Reymund died while still Rector, and left his property to the Pope, to whom he was manifestly much indebted—as a Pluralist.

(2) Upon the death of Cardinal Raymund, the living appears to have been held in two moities. Hugh de Wymundeswold had been Rector of Slingsby, in York. He obtained permission from the Pope to hold "the Church of Leek" along with canonries at Durham and Lichfield. The plea urged by his brother Richard, advocate in the Papal Court, was—"The Church of Leek being not more than three miles from the home of Richard and Hugh, while Slingesby is no small distance from it on the way to Scotland." Among other offices Hugh was Precentor of York. He is found again a suppliant at the Papal Court in 1362. Those were the palmy days of Pluralists!

(3) In the Patent Rolls is the record of a Pardon granted to John de Gretham, chaplain, of his outlawry for not appearing at the King's Bench to answer to Thomas de Sutton, patron, and Roger de Pickeryng, incumbent (by the said Thomas's presentation) of the Church of Leek, for obtaining a provision thereto in the Roman Court, he having surrendered to the Marshalsea prison as certified by Robert Tresilian, Chief Justice. He is granted also restoration to the King's protection. The like is granted to Willlam de Gretham, who maintained and abetted the said John.

(4) In 1409 John Bereford received from Richard de Leek and Elizabeth, his wife, the right to hold certain property which was theirs for life, viz.: Thirteen messuages, sixteen virgates, and two acres of land, forty-four acres of meadow with pasture for six oxen in the Hall Lesue, and 25s. rent with the appurtenances in Esterleke and Westerleke; together with the homages and service of Peter de Godeham (Gotham), William Attemille, and John Legett, and their heirs. He resigned.

(5) In 1460 he was acting as Bishop Suffragan of York. *Reg. Sacr. Angl.*

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7 Oct., 1462	Roger Smyth,[1] priest. Died while rector. Patron—Prior and Convent of Repton.
5 July, 1473	William Fitzherbert, B.A. He resigned. Patrons—John and Richard Fitzherbert.
16 Nov., 1476	Nicholas Fitzherbard. Resigned. Patron—Prior and Convent of Repton.
21 Apl., 1517	Julian Crosby,[2] priest. The last presentee of Repton. Patron—Prior and Convent of Repton.
23 Aug., 1554	Richard Walker, clerk. Died. Patron—Sir John Porte, mil.
7 Mar., 1567	Matthew Hutton,[3] S.T.P. Patron—Archbishop of York.
6 July, 1568	Thomas Bawden (or Baldwyn), clerk. Died. Patron—George Hastings, mil., through his wife, Dorothy Porte.
22 Mar., 1598	Thurstan Chapleyn, clerk. Died. Patron—George Hastings, mil., through his wife, Dorothy Porte.
3 Oct., 1612	John D'Avenant,[4] S.T.P. Patron—Henry, Earl of Huntingdon.
13 Feb., 1620	Edward Bigland, S.T.B., Fellow of Queen's College, Cambridge. Patron—Henry, Earl of Huntingdon.
11 Sep., 1662	John Moore.[5] Patron—Gervas Pigott, arm.

(1) In his will, dated 1472, he desires to be buried before the altar in S. Helen's, West Leake. Buried 13 April, 1473.

(2) During this incumbency a new valuation, called Valor Ecclesiasticus, was made. "Henceforth the first fruits and tenths ceased to be forwarded to Rome, and were transferred to the Crown." Died.

(3) Dean of York, April, 1567. October, 1567, Canon of Southwell. 1589 Bishop of Durham. In 1595 he became Archbishop of York. Died 1603. Buried in York Minster.

(4) Prior to this he was Chaplain to the Patron. He was President of Queen's Coll., Cambridge, and Lady Margaret Divinity Professor in that University. He became Bishop of Salisbury. "He died A.D. 1641 just before the troubles which, though he felt little of, he foresaw with such sorrow as gave him a taste of them."—Cox Mag. Brit.

(5) He actually entered upon the incumbency before the death of Mr. Bigland in 1650, but after the Restoration was duly instituted, on conforming. The Parliamentary Commissioners of 1650 reported that "John Moore, Clerke—the present Incumbent and Proprietor," was "an able preachinge Minister, and well affected to the present government." He died 1666.

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JOHN DAVENANT, D.D., BISHOP OF SALISBURY.

1621 to 1641

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25 Jan., 1667	John Davys, M.A.[1] Patron—Lucia, Countess Dowager of Huntingdon.
1 Nov., 1717	Michael Stanhope,[2] S.T.P. Patron—Frances Stanhope, widow, for this turn.
26 Sep., 1737	Granville Wheler, M.A.[3] Patron—Theophilus, Earl of Huntingdon.
? 1770	Robert Hemington, died Dec. 30th, 1772. Patron—Theophilus, Earl of Huntingdon.
? 1772	Edward Ellis,[4] died March 16th, 1795, aged 83.
8 Aug,, 1795	Theophilus Henry Hastings, M.A.[5] Patron—Francis Rawdon Hastings, Earl of Moira.
14 May, 1804	George Holcombe, D.D. and J.P.[6] Patron—Francis Rawdon Hastings, Earl of Moira.
2 Mar., 1806	John Bateman, M.A., S. John's Coll., Cambridge. Patron—Himself.

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8 Sep., 1882	Caspar Lewis Vashon Baker,[7] to the Rectory of East Leake. Patron—Rev. G. B. Atkinson.
17 July, 1888	Sidney Pell Potter, M.A.,[8] Trinity Coll., Camb. Patron—Rev. G. B. Atkinson.

(1) Buried at West Leake, October 3rd, 1717.

(2) He was great-grandson of the first Earl of Chesterfield. He was made Canon of Windsor by patent, May 21, 1730. He published various sermons preached before the Court and Parliament, and a Vindication of a Sermon preached at S. Mary's, Nottingham, at the Archdeacon's Visitation.

(3) Prebendary of North Leverton, at Southwell, 1753. Died 1770. In the title page of the East Leake register, and on the Church plate of West Leake, he is described as "The Revd. Granville Wheler Esqr."

(4) A fulsome tablet to his memory is affixed to the chancel wall of S. Helen's, West Leake.

(5) He was probably Curate of East and West Leake, 1755—63.

(6) A distinguished farmer as well as divine. He was Rector of Matlock, 1780; Chaplain to the Prince of Wales (afterwards George IV.), 1789; Prebendary of Westminster, 2 Jan., 1822. He died from a chill received at the funeral of William Wilberforce, at which he officiated.

(7) Formerly Curate of Ludlow; now Rector of Stanford-on-Soar.

(8) Curate of Holy Trinity, Goodramgate, with S. Maurice York, 1883-1887; Curate of S. Mary's, Scarborough, 1887-1888.

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CURATES OF EAST LEAKE.

	1298	Gilbert "Clerk of Lek"
	1300	Richard "the Chaplain"
	1553	Robert Watson
	1627	John Presbury "minister"
	1646	'Master' Neale
before	1697	Edward Tomson
	1697	John Cooper
	1703	John Penn (Ap. 17th)
	1710-16	Matthias Brown
	1723-7	George Hancock
	1727-31	Thomas Wilson
	1731	John Ludlam
	1732-36	John Ragdale
	1736	John Philipps
	1737	John Lowther
	1739	Henry Brown
	1740	Geo. Hutton
	1742	Edwd. Poole
	1745-52	Robt. Cooper
	1752-77	John Topham
	1755-63	Theoph. Hastings
	1764	John Farmer
	1766	Gervase Raynes
	1767-9	Henry Hoggart
	1770	William Gill
	1778	Joseph Smith
	1782-87	Stephen Philips
	1785	Carr
	1792-1800	T. Needham
	1805-11	Edwd. Shaw
	1811	George Francis Holcombe
	1816	Thomas Buckley
	1817	Thomas Stevens or Stevenson
	1821	John Hurt
	1822	Montagu Oxenden
	1823	Charles Oxenden

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1827	J. H. Davies
1831	William Lloyd
1837	C. W. Robinson
1839	W. Putsey
1840	T. B. Bensted
1843	J. P. Deacon
1845	E. T. Allen
1847	J. James
1849	J. Lindsay
1849	A. E. Aldridge
1851	J. B. Ansted, L.T.
1852	John Jones
1852	A. E. Aldridge, L.T.
1852	H. G. Jebb
1854	M. W. Palliser, L.T.
1854	James Boultbee
1858	John Henry Killick
1865	Hugh Owen
1866	Charles Bullivant
1869	Blythe Barker Walton
1872	R. W. P. Montgomery
1874	Gustavus Adolphus Sneyd
1879	T. S. E. Lupton

CHURCHWARDENS.

1627	Richard Yarwood Henry Burrows
1629	Daniell Ragg John Spenser
1632	George Wight Richard Wright
1636	Luke Hallam John Ragg
1638	Richard Yarwoode William Marcer

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1665	George Wight William Flie (? Fley)
1723	Francis Thomson John Woodrofe
1724	Edw. Savage Thos. Angrave
1725	Edwd. Savage George Doughty
1726	Edwd. Savage John North, junr.
1731	Hugh Hardy Thomas Carver
1732	Thomas Carver Daniel Woodroffe
1733	Do.
1734	Daniel Woodroffe
1735	Do.
1736	Do. and John North
1737	Do.
1738	Caleb Moore John Clifton
1739	Caleb Moore Will Angrave
1742	Richd. James Francis Thompson
1744	Richd. James Thos. Carver
1745	Rd. James Geo. Hallam
1746	Joseph March Thomas Angrave
1747	Thos. Wooton Joseph March
1748	John North Joseph March
1749	Joseph March Hugh Hardy

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1750	Wm. Mercer, junr.
	Thomas James
1752	Daniel Woodroffe
	William Mercer
1753	Thos. Angrave
	Patrick James
1754	William Smith
1755	William Rowland
	William Smith
1756	Thos. Marshall
	William Rowland
1791	— Hardy (Rectors)
1792	— Hardy (Rectors)
1793	Do.
1799	— Warner (Rectors)
1803	Thomas Kirk and —. Warner (R.)
1804	Do.
1805	John Wootton
1806	Henry Grundy
1807	William Marcer
1808	Do.
1809	Do.
1810	John Burrows
1811	John Marcer
1812	William Burrows and D. Woodroffe (R.)
1813	William Taylor
1814	John Wootton
1815	Do.
1816	Do.
1817	John Marcer
1818	William Burrows
1819	William Taylor (and John Woodroffe)
1820	Do.
1821	Do.
1822	Thomas Kempson & John Woodroffe (R.)
1823	William Angrave
1824	Do.

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JOSEPH BURTON, PARISH CLERK,
FROM 1822 (?) TO 1882.

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1825	John Oldershaw	
1826	Do.	
1827	Do.	
1828	Do.	
1829	Do.	
1830	Do.	(and John Woodroffe)
1831	Do.	

CLERKS.

William Wilde, 1642 to 1663. He was appointed "Register" by the Commonwealth Commissioner, in 1654.

On the flyleaf of the register, facing the entry of this appointment is the note: "Robert Walker keepete the Regester fforas." [1]

* * * * * *

William Burton, buried Dec. 28th, 1793,[2] aged 79 years.
William Burton, „ Feb. 22nd, 1801.
Richard Burton, „ May 8th, 1822, aged 68 years.
Joseph Burton, „ Jany. 23rd, 1882, „ 80 „
Richard Burton, resigned, 1896.
Henry Smith, appointed on the resignation of Richard Burton.

(1) In the Register is the entry "Robert Walker keepethe ye Regester 1664."

(2) The Clerk mentioned by Thresby, whose description fixes this year as the date of his visit.

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CHAPTER VI.

The Church.

ITS DEDICATION.

The reference to the Church in Domesday Book is as bald as possible: it is "a Church." Not much more information is given when it is mentioned fifty or sixty years later: it is then "the mother church." In 1306 we read of "the Church of St. Leonard of Lek." As this document was signed by the Rector and others connected with the parish, it must be granted that this was the dedication of that date. It is a reasonable conclusion that this was East and not West Leake Church; for while many Churches were re-dedicated to St. Mary, few were to the less known Saints as St. Helen. The former is the present dedication of East Leake, the latter of West Leake.[1]

The village wakes are usually a safe guide to the dedication of a Church, for they originated in the observance of the dedication festival. The date of East Leake wakes appears to offer no help, for it is neither Lady Day, nor St. Leonard's Day (November 6), but is reckoned from St. Luke's Day (October 18). St. Luke's Day, however, is quite near

(1) The dedication of West Leake Church to St. Helen can be traced to the middle of the 15th century.

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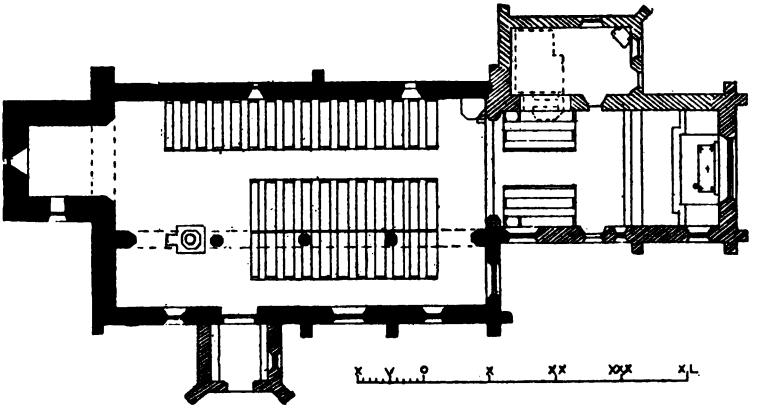
enough to St. Leonard's Day to suggest some connection with the original festival.

The change of dedication may be approximately assigned to 1350, when the Church was enlarged. Churches were often re-dedicated when substantial additions or alterations were made.

It is quite in accordance with what we know of the strength of custom, that the wakes should still remain as in times past.

THE BUILDING.

St. Mary's Church consists of nave, South aisle, chancel, organ chamber-vestry, tower with spire, and porch. The description of Throsby, 1797, is misleading, for he speaks of "two side aisles." By this he means nave and aisle, for in the same way he speaks of Thrumpton as possessing one aisle, meaning the nave.



GROUND PLAN OF CHURCH.

The first building would be a very simple one. It would be an oblong building with a short chancel. The material of which it was built may have been timber, possibly stone. The neighbourhood offered material of both kinds. Even if the first Church was of timber, a stone building was probably built before the Norman Conquest.

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Some antiquarians consider that a portion of the North wall of the nave is of Saxon workmanship. The great thickness of the wall, the graduated masonry, which can best be seen within the Church, and the zigzag or herring bone work which can be seen without, certainly point to this conclusion.

If this conclusion is correct, the next change in the character of the building was made when the Norman style of architecture prevailed, viz., 1066 to 1145. The deeply splayed windows (of which the Easternmost one is a restoration), and the mutilated doorway in the North wall have been confidently assigned to the beginning of the 12th century. If this is the case it is necessary to imagine a rebuilt Church of that period, of which these are the surviving remains.

FONT.

With much more confidence it can be stated that somewhere between 1150 and 1250 the Church was rebuilt and enlarged by the addition of a South aisle, leaving only the North wall of the previous Church. This building was in the Early English style, and had a high pitched roof. There is much of this Church remaining. The tower, if the doorway is excepted, belongs to that date; the nave arcade, the triple lancet window, and two single lancet windows—one of which is only indicated externally,—the South doorway,

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and the fine octagonal font supported by a main and four supporting shafts, are all of Early English workmanship, and design; and the nailhead work of the capitals of the columns of the chancel arch claims to belong to the same period. It is an open question if the South window, West of the porch, is a remnant of Early English work.

INTERIOR OF CHURCH, LOOKING EAST.

In the next century—about 1350—the Church underwent further alterations and extension in the Decorated Style of architecture. The chancel was extended, and the fine reticulated East window—emblem of the Church as a soul-net—was inserted. The Easternmost window of the South side

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of the chancel and the doorway are also of this date.

The South aisle in its present form belongs to the 14th century. A division in the wall East of the porch, which can be observed both within and without, has led to the suggestion that the East portion of the aisle was widened for the purpose of a chapel, and at a later time the Western portion was brought into line. A glance at the wall plate tends to confirm this suggestion, for there is a break in the character of the woodwork. Further confirmation is obtained from the porch. Before this was restored in 1896 the doorway had no true apex, and appeared to have been removed in a careless manner from another position.

In the 15th century the battlemented clerestory was added, and the high pitched roof gave place to the present one. The spire also was then added. It was indeed a bold venture to superadd so much weight upon foundations which were not intended for the burden. It is a splendid testimonial to the 13th century workmen that this venture succeeded.

The tower doorway appears to be a piece of 18th century work, and may be traced to the time when Sir Thomas Parkyns' Hall, in the Hall Orchard Field, was pulled down. The stonework had previously served as a window frame before it was used for the doorway.

THE RESTORATION.

With the exception of repairs of a more or less considerable extent, to which the Churchwardens' accounts bear witness, no work of general restoration of the fabric was attempted until 1886. It would have been a good thing if the chancel had been repaired, for the neglect led to the loss of the North wall in 1836, which was then rebuilt in brick.

In 1886 the chancel was found to be in a very bad state, and was rebuilt from the foundations, the old lines being carefully followed, and the old material used. The North wall was rebuilt in stone, and the single lancet windows reinserted in the South wall. The chancel doorway was

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removed a little more to the East to give room for the choir stalls. The organ chamber was added at this time.

Interesting discoveries were made during the work. Not only was the stonework of the lancet windows found in the walling of the chancel, but also a portion of the bowl of the piscina, which was missing. The sides of these lancets bore traces of coloured decoration. It would appear that 14th century Church restorers were not more careful to retain the ancient work than some of their 19th century successors.

The most interesting discovery during the work was that of the foundations of the East wall of an earlier chancel. It is possibly those of the original chancel, for they represent a very small one; being only fourteen feet from the chancel arch. The foundations were those of a square end chancel, not an apse.

The tracery of the two South windows of the aisle, which had been lost, was replaced. The ornate character of the original tracery of the aisle East window, a window truly unique, suggested the floriate treatment which was adopted.

The nave was untouched, except that the high pews were cut down and the font elevated.

As the tower shewed signs of weakness it was strongly tied, and the upper portion of the spire was rebuilt, and raised some fifteen inches to the original height.

In 1896 the porch, with its unsightly plain brick front, being in a ruinous condition, was removed. It possessed no feature of interest. It was found to have been built upon ground in which burials had taken place, and was attached to the South wall without any bonding. This porch was replaced by the existing one, built after the design of Mr. W. S. Weatherley, of Cockspur Street, London, the architect of the 1886 Restoration. The figure of the Blessed Virgin and Holy Child, in Ketton stone, the gift of Mrs. S. P. Potter, was added in 1898.

In 1899 the Norman window near the pulpit was restored by the Rector. Remains of the original window were found,

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but were too much damaged by past vandalism to be reinserted. At some time, which may have been late in the 18th century, the window had been "enlarged" to give light to the preacher in the three-decker pulpit, or the clerk at his feet.

THE WINDOWS.

The stained glass in the West window of the tower was the gift of the Rev. J. H. Killick (curate in 1858-65), and was inserted when the West gallery was removed, and the belfry thrown open. It is the work of Messrs. Heaton, Butler and Baynes. The subject is The Good Shepherd.

The East window of the aisle is filled with glass by Mr. C. E. Kempe. It was given by Miss E. C. Bateman, in memory of her father, for 42 years Rector of East and West Leake. The subject is the Crucifixion. The two small windows in the North wall contain glass by Mr. C. Powell. The Annunciation being the subject of the Western window, and S. John Bap. of the Eastern. The former was the gift of Mr. Edwin Gibson, in memory of his father and mother, and the latter of Mrs. S. P. Potter, on the restoration of the window. The glass of the Bley memorial window in the chancel is also Mr. Powell's work: the subject, Charity, was taken from Sir Joshua Reynold's window, in New College Chapel, Oxford.

NOTES ON DETAIL.

There are no monuments in the church. Torre speaks of two testamentary burials—that of "William Umfrey of Ester Lekes" who willed (December 3rd, 1346) that his body should be buried in the Church; and "John Bussey of Boroby in the parish of Leke," who desired (will, April 3rd, 1484) "to be buried in the High Qere (=Quire)." The latter is an error for Leake in Yorkshire, in which parish there is still a hamlet of Borrowby. The will speaks of Leke, in the county of Yorks., and Torre must have overlooked this.

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INTERIOR OF CHURCH, LOOKING WEST.

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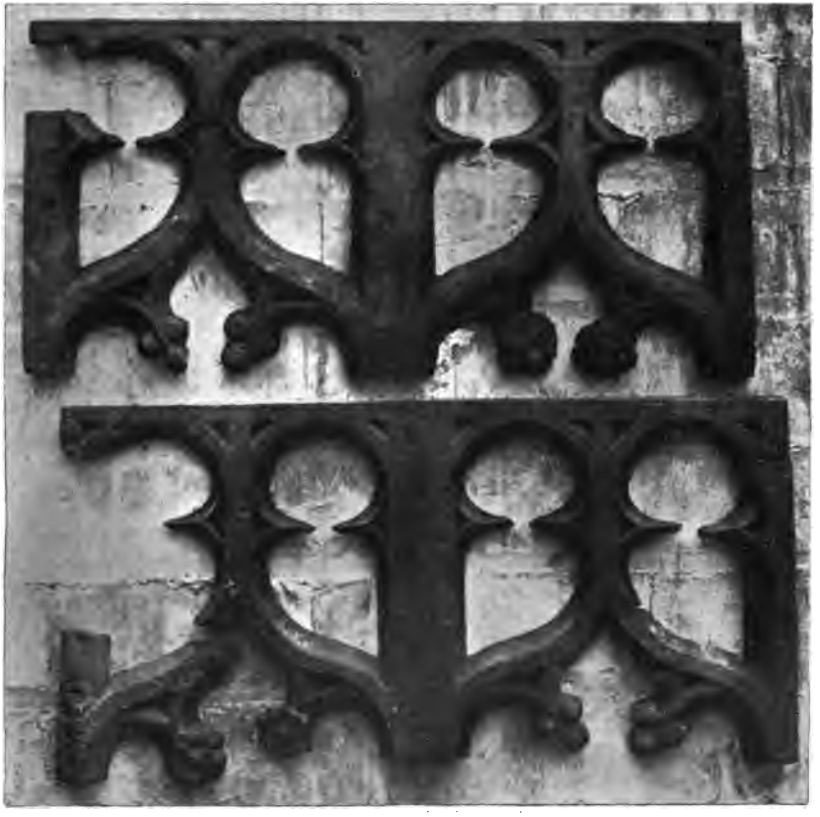
A slab of alabaster was found at the restoration beneath the chancel floor, and may have been the covering of a grave.

Sixty years ago there was a screen dividing the chancel from the nave. Unfortunately, it was not then considered



FRAGMENTS OF SCREEN.

worthy of restoration. From fragments which remain it would appear to have been 15th century work of simple but effective design. It is satisfactory to have sufficient of the original work to reproduce the design when the opportunity occurs.

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It is plain, from an examination of the Easternmost arch of the arcade, that there was once a rood loft. A parclose screen appears to have enclosed the altar in the aisle. There are traces observable both on the capital of the East pillar, and the South wall of the aisle, where this was fixed. The hole in the South wall has been thought, with less likelihood, to mark the position where was placed a figure of the Saint to whom this side altar was dedicated.

POPPY HEAD SEAT, 15TH CENTURY.

The few remains of the original seats are interesting. Those with the poppy heads are of the 15th century, while the more massive and rugged ones are early 17th century work. One of these bench ends is dated 1612. In 1844 the church was reseated in the box pew manner, then general, and the massive oak benches, probably grown and worked in the parish, were banished. It is useless, however natural, to lament these losses.

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The lectern was made out of oak taken from the bell chamber, and was presented to the Church on Christmas Day, 1902, by Mr. George Goodband, a Sidesman of the Church.

The 13th century octagonal font is situated in the ancient position, beneath the Westernmost arch of the arcade of the same date. Above it is the pulley by which the cover was raised. On the North and South sides of the rim of the font

SEAT, 17TH CENTURY.

are clearly traceable the remains of staples used, according to the order of Archbishop Edmund, in 1236, for locking the font covers against superstitious misuse by intruders. The south edges of the basin are much worn, through the sharpening of some instruments—the more prosaic say pocket or girdle knives; the less prosaic, arrow heads. It is quite possible that this portion of the Church was once used

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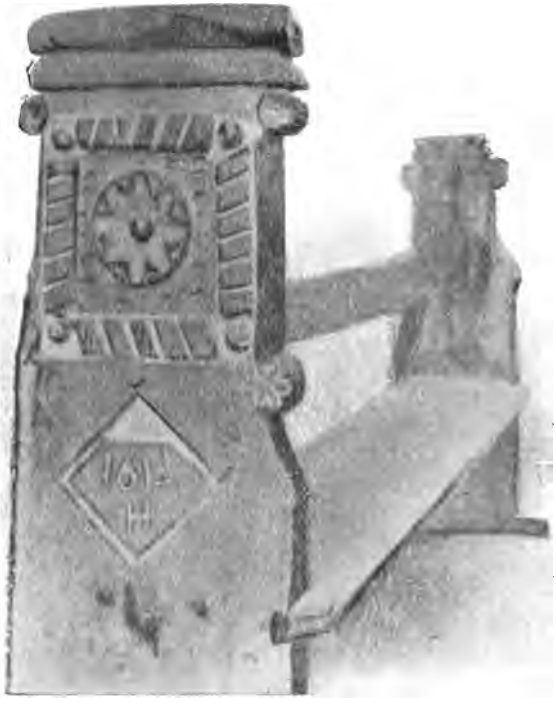
as a school, and, if this was the case, the damage might be accounted for without much difficulty.

A detail in the bell chamber is of peculiar interest. There is a round headed doorway above the tower arch, which is now blocked up on the Church side, but is visible



SEAT, 17TH CENTURY.

from the chamber. A careful examination has revealed the holes on the North side, where the hinges were fixed. It is a matter of debate for what purpose this door was used, but it is quite probable that when the tower was built this chamber was intended for a priest's or sacristan's chamber, with access from within the Church. Galleries were early fixed at the West end of churches, and it is possible that access to the chamber was obtained by way of the gallery.

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Upon the beams of the nave roof and aisle are indications of the continual repairs done to the Church, and the time when they were done.

There is an interesting record of repairs upon the roof of the aisle. On the Easternmost beam to the left is painted in dark lettering

"Richard Yarwoode } Churchwardens."
William Marcer }

and to the right,

"by me Robert Wight June 23 1638"

On the beam next to it, under the same date, we have the rhymed inscription painted in the same manner:—

"Richard Hutchinson and his sons did frame this
work that here is mayde
And at it the(y) all wrought full sore that when
the(y) had done the(y) might be payde"

The oak pegs West of the South door beneath the wall plate were probably fixed there to suspend the Church ladder.

The four brass candelabra, of late 18th or early 19th century work, were purchased—if tradition speaks truly—from the local Baptists. Two of these were restored, and brought into use again in 1898.

The carved oak pelican, mentioned by Throsby, is fortunately preserved. It was formerly fixed in the bench end of the Manor House seat, on the North side of the Church. A second carved figure, which was in the possession of the landlord of the Three Horse Shoes Inn, was destroyed by a thoughtless charwoman, as recently as 1901.

Two large, weird canvas pictures, representing "Death" and "Time," once hung over the old gallery, on either side. They survived the gallery some twenty-five years. At the restoration, in 1886, they were removed, and, falling into decay, perished. Canvasses containing The Creed, The Lord's Prayer, and The Ten Commandments, which occupied positions to the right and left of the Royal Arms, over the entrance to the chancel, perished at the same time.

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CARVED OAK PELICAN.

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The iron clock, now standing at the West end of the nave, figures in the churchwardens' accounts from their commencement in 1791, an item in that year being "1/- paid to the Clerk for oiling the clock." It continued in use until late in the last century.

No relic is so famous as the tin trumpet—locally called The Shawm. Similar trumpets are found at Braybrook, and Harrington, in Northamptonshire; at Willoughton, in Lincolnshire; and at Charing, in Kent. One formerly existed at Thorney, in Lincolnshire. The East Leake

TIN TRUMPET, LOCALLY CALLED "THE SHAWM."

trumpet is the most perfect specimen of these. Its dimensions are 7 feet 9 inches when extended, and 4 feet 1 inch when, trombone-like, it is closed. The mouth of the trumpet has a diameter of 21⅝ inches. The original use of these trumpets is uncertain; but it is known that the Braybrook, Willoughton and Thorney instruments were, at one time, used for the purpose of summoning the congregation to Church.

There is no tradition of this use at East Leake. It was certainly used *within* the Church, and formed part of the gallery orchestra, a bass singer vamping the bass through it. It was used until about 1855. The Christmas singers also made use of it in their perambulations of the parish. Its

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preservation is largely owing to Mr. Charles Angrave, a member of an old East Leake family; and its replacement in the Church, to the Rev. C. S. Millard, Rector of Costock.

The parish plough was kept in the Church until the fifties of the last century.

EXTERNAL DETAILS.

There are a few external details of considerable interest. The carving upon the East window of the aisle is remarkable. It is not easy to trace the symbols, but the figures of the Blessed Virgin and Child are still traceable.

On the two buttresses East of the porch, about five feet from the ground, are dial-like circles, with radii. These may have been sundials.

On the East jamb of the window, Eastward of the porch, is a smaller circle, less distinct than the above. This is probably a dedication mark.

The sundial, now West of the porch, was formerly fixed upon the brick front of the old porch; and was removed and repainted in 1896. It bears the motto, "Now is yesterday's to-morrow." It is mentioned in Mrs. Gatty's Book of Sundials.

THE BELLS OF ST. MARY'S CHURCH.

St. Mary's Church has had a ring of three bells for 350 years at the very least. There is every reason for believing that for a much longer period three bells—emblem of the Holy Trinity—have hung in the tower. In addition to these a small bell for use at the Holy Communion, known as a sacring bell, hung either in the tower, or over the chancel arch, most probably in the former position.

The known history of the bells commences with September 4th, 1552, on which day an official inventory of the Church goods of East Leake was taken. In this is the

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entry "iii belles And that Richard Wild Thomas Asten and Thomas North are bound by recog: in xx (? £20) to answer for a sacring bel sold for 5s." On the 8th of May, in the following year (1553), the Commissioners handed over the three bells to the Curate, Robert Watson.

Nothing is said of the sacring bell. It had neither been recovered, nor replaced, as yet.

The three bells, which had done duty in pre-Reformation times, failed one after the other. The first to give way appears to have been the third bell. It was conveyed to the foundry of Henry Oldfield, either late in the 16th or early in the 17th century. The earlier date is the probable one, for the inscription and lettering are the same as on one of the bells of Clifton, which bears date 1598. The inscription upon it is "IHESVS BE OVRE SPEDE." It bears the trade mark of Henry Oldfield. The first bell presumably failed next, and was recast by the same founder, whose trade mark is upon it, together with the inscription "✠ GOD SAVE THE CHVRCH."

The second bell was recast in 1627, with the same legend as the first bell, without the prefixed ✠. It had no founder's mark, but the lettering was similar to that upon the first, so it may be concluded that it too was recast in the same foundry. Henry Oldfield died in 1620, so we may ascribe this bell to his successor, George Oldfield. If this inscription was suitable when the first bell was cast, much more so when the second, for the dark days of the reign of Charles I. were fast approaching. Churchmen had reason to pray "God save the Church."

There is no record to tell us whether or no Messrs. Wild, Asten and North replaced the sacring bell; but the existence of the small bell, called the Ting-Tang, suggests that this was done. There is no founder's or other mark, or inscription upon the bell, which, in the opinion of Mr. E. D. Taylor, of Loughborough, is old.

A village tradition says that this bell once belonged to the Bley Free School, but we have evidence that this fourth

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bell hung in the tower more than a century ago. Throsby visited the Church about 1793, and records that the Church tower contained four bells. Another traveller, Laird, relates that at the time of his visit—in 1813—there were "four well-toned bells."

The terrier of 1809 enumerates *three* bells as belonging to the Church. This may be taken to imply that the fourth bell was not Church property, but it is possibly only an omission.

In the memory of many living the Ting-Tang was rung on Shrove Tuesday at noon, and this was known as the Pancake Bell. It is easy to connect this day's bell-ringing with the shriving of old, which gave the day its name. This is one of many instances of customs being continued in spite of alterations in times and manners.

In 1902 the three heavy bells were found to be in bad condition, through want of quartering. They were removed to the foundry of Messrs. John Taylor & Co., at Loughborough, to be repaired and retuned. The second bell—being cracked—was recast, with the new legend "✠ GOD SAVE THE CHURCH AND KING. 1902," thus commemorating the Coronation of King Edward VII. The bells were rehung on a steel cage, as the oak cage was unsound. New floors were fixed in the belfry at the same time, and the Ting-Tang was rehung in the East window of the tower. The total cost of the repairs was £133, which sum was raised by subscription, and by monthly offerings in Church.

The present weight of the bells is

	Cwt.	Qrs.	Lbs.
1.	4	2	15
2.	7	1	12
3.	8	0	11

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CHAPTER VII.

Church Books.

1. Black Letter Bible, 1611.—"Imprinted at London by Robert Barker, Printer to the King's Most Excellent Maiestie. Anno Dom. 1611."

Title page lost. Condition fair.

2. Book of Common Prayer and Holy Bible—in One Volume.—"Cambridge Printed by John Field Printer to the Universitie And illustrated wth chorographical sculps by J. Ogilby" The Prayer Book and the Old Testament are dated 1660, the New Testament 1659. A printed slip is pasted at the end of the Apocrypha with this inscription "This Bible was given to the Church of Leake in the connty of Nottingham, by Frances Stanhope—the Widow of the Honourable Charles Stanhope of Mansfield, Esq. and the mother of Michael Stanhope, Doctor in Divinity, Rector of the said Church, Nov. the ninth, 1717."

3. The Book of Homilies.—Printed at Oxford, 1683. Condition, bad.

4. Bishop Jewel's Works.—Black letter and Roman type. Title page lost. The date of the greater part of the volume 1611. Condition, bad. This volume bears upon its first page the name "Mr Bley," who may have been the original

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owner. On the fly leaf are the names of "John Chamberlin" and "John North Booke his." There are two or three attempts at rhyme, apparently by the former, of which one bears transcription

"Godes gift am I, Himselfe
He freely gave me
Gods gift am I, and
Non but hee shall have me."

5. The most famous book in the possession of the Church is a chained volume,[1] entitled "*Katabaptistai Kataptustoi.* The Dippers dipt. Or, The Anabaptists[2] duck'd and plung'd over Head and Eares, at a Disputation in Southwark. Together with A large and full Discourse of Their 1 Original. 2 Several sorts. 3 Peculiar Errours. 4 High Attempts against the State. 5 Capitall punishments: with an Application to these times. By Daniel Featley D.D.[3] The Third Edition. . . . London. Printed for Nicholas Bourne, at the South Entrance of the Royal Exchange: And Richard Royston, in Ivie-Lane. 1645."

The Epistle Dedicatory of this book was addressed "To the Most Noble Lords with the Honorable Knights Citizens and Burgesses now Assembled in Parliament" "From Prison in the Lo: Peters house in Aldersgate-street, Jan. 10. 1644"

The volume measures 7½ by 5⅞ inches, and is bound in leather. It is in fairly good preservation.

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(1) The book was probably attached to the East side of the middle pillar of the arcade.

(2) The Anabaptists or Baptists had a Meeting House in the village in 1696, see p. 63. This was replaced by a larger building in 1756, which was in turn enlarged in 1839. This community possesses an endowment of £700, which was left to it under the will of Mr. John Litherland, who was apprenticed in his youth to Mr. James Smedley, Joiner, Builder, and Wheelwright, of this parish.

(3) Daniel Featley, or Fairclough, b. 1582, d. 1645, had a remarkable career.—He was a Chorister of Magdalene Coll. Oxford, admitted Scholar of Christ Church 1594—He was Chaplain to English Ambassador at Paris, 1610-12; Domestic Chaplain to Archbishop of Canterbury, 1617-25; Rector of Northill, Cornwall; Rector of Lambeth, 1618 onwards; Rector of All Hallows, Bread Street, London; Rector of Acton, 1627 onwards; Provost of Chelsea College, 1630. In 1642 he narrowly escaped death at the hands of some of the Earl of Essex's soldiers. He was imprisoned for eighteen months, in 1644-5, as a "spy and intelligencer," being found in correspondence with Archbishop Ussher. He was buried in the chancel of Lambeth Church. He was the author of "Ancilla Pietatis," "Clavis Mystica," and various controversial books.

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THE CHAINED BOOK.

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THE REGISTERS.

The oldest register is a parchment volume, measuring $15\frac{5}{8}$ by 6 inches, containing mixed entries of baptisms, marriages, and burials, for the years 1600 to 1668. From 1654 to 1660 the entries are of births, not baptisms. These recommence in 1660, the year of the Restoration. Condition, good.

The second volume is also of parchment, measuring $14\frac{3}{4}$ by 5 inches, and contains mixed entries from 1669 to 1721. Condition, fair.

The third volume, also of parchment, needs binding. It measures $13\frac{3}{4}$ by $7\frac{1}{4}$ inches, and contains mixed entries—with some attempt at grouping them—for the years 1721-1764.

The fourth volume is of parchment, and is in good condition. It contains entries of baptisms and burials 1764-1812. It measures $16\frac{3}{4}$ by $6\frac{3}{4}$ inches.

The fifth volume, parchment bound, contains entries of marriages from 1755 to 1812, and publications of banns from 1755 to 1788. It measures 15 by $9\frac{1}{2}$ inches, and is in good condition.

A sixth volume, parchment bound, contains entries under the Act of 1783, which levied a 3d. stamp duty on every burial, marriage, and birth, or christening. The entries of marriages are from 1784 to 1799, baptisms 1783 to 1797, and burials 1783 to 1797. It is in bad condition.

EXTRACTS FROM THE REGISTERS.

The registers commence with the year 1600. They have few entries of special interest. In some of the extracts given, the form, rather than the substance, is the point of interest.

In the year 1644 we have this entry: "Ffowre souldiers buried slaine in a skirmish in our Lordship September ye 17th between partyes of the King's forces and the Parliament's whereof two were of His Majestyes forces of Ashby de la Zouche garrison and two of Leicester the Parliaments garrison."

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The next entry is "Thomas Ffloer alias Flower buried September ye 19th dying of his wounds received in the same skirmish September ye 17th being of the Ashby de la Zouche garrison."

In 1654 the register commenced afresh at the other end of the volume, with this note at the top of the first page: 1654. "Be it remembered that on the 1st day of Aprill there came before me William Llanden Esqr one of the Justices of the peace for the County of Nottm William Wild being choosen the Parish Register for the Towne of East Leake in the said Countie and considering the sd William Wilde a person fittly qualified for that imployment I have approved and sworne according to the late act of Parliament in that behalf. In Witness whereof I have subscribed my hand the day & year first above written

Willm Llanden"

17th Feb 1666—Anne Wilde the wife of William Wild was buryed in the Stacke Yard the same day

Aug 19th 1696. (? Mary) ye daughter of Richard (? Page) baptized at ye Meeting house.

1727. Eliz. Clark a Londoner buryed October ye 15th [1]

1732. Mary White a Traveller was Buried Ap 4th [1]

1734. Mr Edward Wheat was buried June the nineth

1755. Daniel Leake Buried Jany the 27th 1755

[The last Leake in the register.]

1766. Mr Hugh Hardy buried April 20th 1766

1771. Miss Sarah Thorold buried June 10th

1783. Mr Thomas Angrave buried Sept 17th

,, Thomas Angrave buried Septr 24th

1786. Abraham, Isaac, & Jacob, sons of Edward and Anne Savage were born 13th March 1786 at one birth and were baptized March 14th 1786 by me Stephen Phillips Curate.

Abraham Isaac & Jacob sons of Edward and Ann

(1) These burials of strangers are accounted for by the forgotten fact that up to 1739 the road from Loughborough to Nottingham lay through East Leake and Gotham.

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Savage, born at one birth were buried in the same coffin on March 19th 1786.

1806. Mary Ann the daughter of the Rev. George Holcombe Rector buried May 31st 1806—(Buried in the Chancel—see floor stone)

„ Mr John Hardy was buried Novr the 7th 1806.

There are some curious Christian names and spellings in the registers: Alin, Amphales (Amphilus, Amphilas), Anfillis, Annes, Bottris, Coysandria, Dorritie, Darthoty, Edee, Elner, Elline, Emmet, Fatherne, Gillian, Hewe, Honna, Joyce, Ione, Magdalene, Mudwin, Ostin, Prudent, Prudence, Rainold, Thurstan, Thomasin (Thomasiny) Ursula (Ussala, Ursilla).

Mention is made of certain villages at the close of the earliest register, implying that they were villages for whom collections, under Briefs, were made in the year 1638, viz., "Stoke Nayland in Suffolk, Clifton Com. Bedford, Mattershaw Com. Nottingham, Little Steeping Com. Lincolne, Lenton Nottinghamshire, Licham Com. Norfolk, Bourne Com. Lincolne."

For the inhabitants of Meer in Wilts., who were suffering through fire, the sum of 3/3 was offered at Great Leak under letters patent issued in the 22nd year of King Charles II., 1682.

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CHAPTER VIII.

Parish Finance and Charities.

EXTRACTS FROM THE CHURCHWARDENS' ACCOUNTS.

The oldest accounts existing are those for the year 1791. No item of unusual interest is found in that year, unless it is this, "Mr W Bans for Hearse cloth £3 . 13 . 0." The usual charges are there for bread and wine for the Holy Communion "The Sacriment," for washing the minister's surplice, and for parchment for church registers. William Burton is paid £1 for ringing the bell, and 1/- for oiling the clock. There is an absence of charges for fuel and light.

		£	s.	d.
In 1794	Paid Wm Burton for Church Clock and Bell ...	1	0	0
1795	Do. do. Cleaning Clock	0	1	0
,,	Do. do. "for Writeing Regeister" ...	0	1	0
1801	Paid for a new Surpplass (surplice) and making ...	2	6	6
1804	,, William Annabell's bill on acct of the Church roof etc	148	3	6½
,,	,, Richard Crane's bill	33	4	8
1806	,, Expenses of Young people at Loughborogh at the Confirmation...	2	1	0
,,	,, Mr Winfields bill for writing the account of the Doles in the Church	0	11	9
1811	,, Mrs Gamble for New Weathercock weight 7½ lbs.	1	1	0

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		£	s.	d.
1811	,, Mr West, Gilding and painting Do ...	0	15	0
,,	,, for Stone Ball and Neck for Steeple ...	1	0	0
,,	,, Wm Ristes bill for pointing and repairing the Tower and Steeple	21	17	8
,,	,, Jno Hardy's bill for Ale for Workmen ...	1	5	7½
,,	,, Jno Guttridges bill for do	0	18	0
1828	,, for Coals[1]	1	0	0
1829	A Ton of Coals and Carriage	1	0	0

EXTRACTS FROM THE PARISH CONSTABLE'S ACCOUNTS.

The Parish Constable's accounts exist from 1791. There are a few interesting entries. Ale seems to be paid for on every or any pretext.

		£	s.	d.
1791	Paid Wm Smith for 2 Hedge hogs	0	0	4
	Gave to 3 Irishmen	0	1	0
	For Carrying 1 of them to Kegworth	0	2	0
	Nov 5th "paid for Ale Gunpowder plott" ...	0	3	0
	paid for Ointment for Sarah Hopewell's mouth ...	0	1	6
	paid for Letters about Roman Catholicks ...	0	1	0
	paid Charles Cross for the Poor	80	0	0
1792	paid for Six Dozen Sparrows	0	1	6
	paid Charles Cross, Mole Catcher	2	0	0
	paid Charles' House rent	1	5	0
	recd Mr Meynels yearly payment for the Fox Cover	21	0	0
	recd Mr Saviles payment (Ling's Cover) ...	15	15	0
	recd of Lord Steer's man for exercising horses in the lings	1	1	0
	paid Edwd Smith for Nogging Cows	0	16	0
	paid to 4 Scotch men	0	0	6
	paid when the Cows come over ye water ...	0	10	0
	paid Spencers Dole (Decr 21st)	0	6	0
1793	(March) paid Rights (Wright's) dowl (dole) ...	0	5	0
	paid for ale when doing the bells	0	1	0
	paid Thos. C. Angrave for two days Work with Common plough	1	1	0
	paid for swearing two pinders	0	2	6
	paid John Buxton for work at Castle Chimney ...	0	0	8

(1) First entry for fuel.

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		£	s.	d.
1795	paid for a letter from London	0	0	6
1796	paid the Militia man	1	1	0
1797	paid for Ribons for Cockcades	0	5	2
	paid Wm Kirk for ale & Bread chees when Shipwash was stop'd	0	3	0
	paid Wm Bently for Castle Chymneys	1	1	0
	For 27 Score of Thatch for Castle at 2/6 per Score ...	3	7	6
	paid John Guttridge for the Stocks	1	14	6
1798	paid to John Dugmore his Bill for Castle Windows ...	0	8	5½
1802	paid to Nottm General Ospl (Hospital)	2	2	0
1816	Repairing Castle Chamber	1	14	6
1820	Paid for spinning	1	11	6
	(A prior entry, Received for Linen Yarn £3 0 0)			
1824	Dole and other Bread	0	15	0
1829	Dole and other bread to the poor	1	12	0
1830	For cotton and Angola and stockings making ...	12	17	8½
	For a Sedan Chair for Mr Stokes	0	5	0
1832	Paid for a Survey and Plan of the Lordship ...	68	0	0
1834	Paid the Ratcatcher	3	0	0
1835	Paid for Sparrows	6	11	0½

"Memorandum of Good Received by Charles Cross from Richard Garner the 5th day of May 1794—that are Parish or Work House Furniture—are as follows

Eight Blankets	One frying Pan
Three flock Beds	One Round table
Three Bedsteads	One Lining Wheel
Two Boulsters	One Small Brass Pan
One Pillow	One Small Iron pott"
Three Bedmatts	
One Pillow Case	

* * *

Under the date 1807 we have the following balance sheet of the expenses of hiring two Militiamen at East Leake:—

Paid for the two men ...	52	10	0
Swearing in the two men ...	1	1	0
Total expenditure	53	11	0
Reduced by subscriptions ...	29	14	5
Reduced by subscriptions at Gotham ...	12	5	0
	41	19	5
Sum paid by the parish	11	11	7

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In the parish chest there is a "Servants Register for the Parish of East Leake" for 1818 to 1833. Each servant is registered as being hired for fifty-one weeks. This was not so much for the purpose of giving the servants a week's holiday as to prevent them from getting a status as parishioners, and consequently chargeable on the poor-rate.

* * *

The same care explains the following document concerning apprentices:—

"At a Vestry Meeting held at E. Leake the 7th day of April 1826 the following Agreement was made & Signed by the Principal Inhabitants of the Parish of E. Leake

That if any person or persons in Trade whether Blacksmith Wheelwright Joiner Tailor Cordwainer Collar Maker or any other Occupation whatever take an Apprentice or Apprentices without the Consent or Approbation of a Majority of the Persons whose names are hereunto subscribed, We the undersigned will not employ such Tradesman or Tradesmen in any manner whatever

And that if any of us the Undersigned employ such Tradesmen as shall take an Apprentice or Apprentices contrary to this Agreement, We the undersigned do hereby agree to forfeit the sum of Ten pounds to be applied as we the undersigned shall think proper at the time such forfeiture is made. Witness our hands this 7th day of April 1826

John Burrows	Wm Angrave	Wm Nixon
Thos C. Angrave	Ed. Burrows	John Wootton
Wm Kirk	John Oldershaw	John Marshall"

CHARITIES.

In the Abstract of Charities 1786-8 the following are enumerated as belonging to East Leake:—

1. *Donor unknown.* Land given to Poor. Vested now in Will. Mercer, John Hardy, Dan: Woodroffe, Thos. Wootton, Thos Bosworth, Thos. Burrows, and John Angrave.

   Clear annual produce, £10.

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2. *John Bley*, 1730, left by will, land to endow a School. Vested now in same as last (1) except Thos. Burrows for Thos. Bosworth. Clear annual value £20.
3. *John Rite* (? Wright), 1681, gave (*how* unknown) £5 for bread to Poor. Vested in Overseers. Annual value, 5/-.
4. *Thomas Spence* (? Spencer), 1686, gave (unknown *how*) £6 for bread to Poor. Not stated in whom vested. Annual value, 6/-.

If the charity No. 1 exists, it is to be identified with the Town Land. No. 2 was sold to build the Board School, a small balance remaining was invested in the Funds. Charities Nos. 3 and 4 are lost. They were lost in the following way: The Overseers placed the capital sum of £11 in the hands of a supposed substantial person. This man failed, and the charities were lost.[1] The Parish Accounts for 1791 and onwards to 1823 have the entries of 11/- for Dole Bread. In 1824 the entry is, "Dole and other Bread 15/-" In 1829—the last entry of the Doles—it is "Dole and other bread to the poor £1 . 12 . 0."

An item for writing the account of these Doles upon the Church wall appears in the Churchwardens' accounts for the year 1806. Tradition locates this writing on the West end of the North wall of the nave.

A Modern Charity.—Mary Attenborough,[2] widow of Richard Attenborough, bequeathed, by will, dated January 10th, 1854, the sum of one hundred pounds, £10 to be distributed along with the interest on the 26th December next after her death, and upon each subsequent December 26th, until the £100 with its interest was expended "unto and amongst such of the Poor of the Parish of East Leake otherwise Great Leake," in such manner as her trustees or executors should think fit. The same testator bequeathed £100 to "the Rector for the time being of the Parish of East Leake . . upon trust to lay out and invest the same at interest in . . any . . . . Parliamentary Stocks or Funds of

(1) Mr. Richard Hawley related this to Mr. John Oldershaw, who informed the writer.
(2) Died June 5th, 1855.

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THE BLEY ENDOWED FREE SCHOOL.

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Great Britain in his name and to receive and take the interest . . . and apply so much . . as shall from time to time be sufficient . . for maintaining . . and keeping in good repair . . the Vault with the Monument and palisadings erected to the memory of her father and husband . . "

In case the Rector is of opinion that the money is not all required for these repairs, he is given discretionary power "to distribute such overplus . . amongst such poor persons residing in the Parish of East Leake" as he shall think most proper.

SCHOOLS AND SCHOOLMASTERS.

The first School of which there is any record was erected and endowed by Mr. John Bley, in 1724. It occupied the site of the front playground of the present School. Some of the masters connected with that School were—

Patrick James.

Wm Lester.

Richard Hawley, for 48 years schoolmaster, died in 1867.

Joseph Taverner.

This School was carried on until 1874. On April 28th in that year the East Leake School Board was created.

SCHOOLMASTERS UNDER THE SCHOOL BOARD.

W. Shannon, 1875-1877, in the old building.

W. H. Richardson, 1877-1884, in the new building.

W. H. Waddington, 1885-1889.

R. B. Hancock, 1890-1896.

R. Humphreys, 1896 (June)

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CHAPTER IX.

Local Courts and Hirings.

PETTY SESSIONS.

The Nottinghamshire magistrates formerly held a Petty Sessions Court at the Three Horse Shoes Inn, East Leake. The Sessions ceased in consequence of the improvement of manners in the district, but the exact date when they ceased is not certain. Mr. T. R. Potter, in "Walks Round Loughborough" (1840) says that the Court was then held. Mr. A. J. Raven, Clerk to the Nottinghamshire magistrates, in answer to a question, writes:—"I came into the Justices Clerk's Office for the Nottingham Division in 1847. At that time the Nottingham Division included the parishes formerly in the East Leake Division." The Sessions were removed to the County town between 1840 and 1847.

In this Local Court, Grundy, the sheep stealer, and reputed murderer of a packman, was first tried. This man was transported for sheep stealing. His memory is kept green by the name given to the house in which he lived. Where there is one who knows the right name—Woodgate Cottage—there are many who know it as Mutton Hall.

"Hardy's Parlour," as the Courtroom was called, is still

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OLD SMITHY HOUSE, ONCE THE THREE HORSE SHOES INN.

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used for the Revising Barrister's Court, and by the Inspector of Weights and Measures.

There can be little doubt but that this local Court was the successor of the ancient Manor Courts.

We get some interesting glimpses of the proceedings of these earlier Courts in the Duchy of Lancaster Court Rolls. The following extracts from these Rolls not only illustrate the cases tried at these independent Courts, but also furnish a list of residents and freemen.

COURTS OF THE HONOUR OF TUTBURY.

"Leek. View of frank pledge[1] 3 Oct 8 Hen iv. 1406.

"Excused attendance[2] John Humberston of Leek Magna, Robert in le Vree of the same, Wm Aleyn of the same, John Flecher of the same, John Aleyn of the same, John Stevensone of the same . . . Walter Garton of the same Leek, Hugh Prokator, Rich^d^ del Wroo, Simon Thomasone, Margerote——"

The 12 pledgemen or jury were—

Willm atte Mylne, John Wright, Hugh Brette, Edward Fraunkileyne, John Taillour, Thomas del Hul, Robert Stevensone, Peter of Gotham, John Smyth sen^r^, Simon of Cleybrook, John Banastre, John Smyth jun^r^.

The cases are divided under the heads "Estur Leek" and "Westur Leek."

"Estur Leek.

"John Smyth sen^r^ and John Legett, frankpledgemen present that[3] John Leget, 2d., once, John Smyth, 24d., 12 times, Simon Claybroke, 8d., 4 times, Richard Beall, 8d., 4 times, Alice Dilepe, 4d., twice, Richard in le Wroo, 8d., 4 times brewed and sold[4] contrary to the assize, therefore

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(1) Frankpledge was the mutual bond of the freemen for the conduct of the community. The Lord of the Manor had rights of "view of frankpledge" investigation of conduct and "assize of bread and ale," &c., *i.e.*, the right to regulate the price of beer and bread, the chief food of the peasantry.

(2) The tenants had to attend at the Court. If absent it must be by permission, or fine was imposed.

(3) The sums following the names are the amounts of the fines imposed.

(4) No one might brew without the knowledge of the lord or his servants

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they are at the mercy of the Court. Also they present that a hen with a chicken was found stray[1] worth 2d. and sold by John Smyth the younger."

"View of Frankpledge Nov 24 13 Hen iv 1411. Court at Leake—

"Excused for absence:—John Troweman, Symon Thomasmon,[2] Alured Henfrey, Hugh Brette, Thomas Brette, William Atte Milne the elder, Thomas Hebbe, Roger Jors (?), Richard Tailliour, Richard Marche, John Greyve."

"Estur Leke—Richard Bylle and John Leget, frankpledghmen present that John Smyth, 8d., 4 times, Richard Bille, 6d., 3 times, John Leget, 4d., twice, broke the assize brewing (and selling beer). Also they present that a stray swarm of bees came and Henry le Par (Leper) sold it for 12 pence; and that John Pope assaulted Richard Cook hayward of the sheep, for which Richard raised the hue with a horn[3] on John; 6d., and John is therefore at the mercy of the Court by pledge of the freemen, and John Humberston, and John Wryghte."

"Also that Richard Valeymon, 6d. paid, drew blood from Robert Gentyll,"

"From John Hunte, bailiff, is due for 1 bullock weakly and stray (impounded) 12d."

"View of frankpledge 26 Ap: 13 Hen iv. 1412.

"Excused—John Humberstone, William atte Milne, John Flecher, John Walton, Rich[d] Megsane, William Hogge, Ralf Refayr."

* * *

"Esturleke—The frankpledgemen present . . . that the Hegstrete[4] is muddy by default of the village, and therefore the village is at the mercy of the Court. Ordered to be amended before next Court under penalty of 15d."

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(1) Strays and the profit of strays were due to the lord of the honour.

(2) Thomason—Man of Thomas.

(3) The lord had the right of "hue and cry," to follow up felons and offenders. In cases of bloodshed the lord had the right of punishment, even by hanging.

(4) Hegstrete—probably from old High German *hag*, a town, and so means the town or village street.

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"Leeke 18 July 9 Hen 5. 1421.

"Excused for absence Wm atte Milne, Willm Aleyn, Roger Jors, Richard Bill, Simon Cleybrok."

The 12 jurymen—John Humberston, Tho. del Hull, Rob. Stevenson, John Smyth, Tho. Brett, Robt in le Wroo, John Aleyn, John and Richard in le Wroo, John Stevenson, John of Gotham, John Bond.

Fined for absence—John Wayt, Webster,[1] John Bartram, Mag'ot[2] Andrew; for brewing and selling beer John Legett, John Smyth, Agnes Biell, Simon del Cleybrok and Alice Dulep.

COURTS OF PLUMTREE WAPENTAKE.

"24 Nov 6 Hen iv. 1404

"Leek and Corthyngstock[3] (Costock)

"William of Thrumpton frankpledgeman presents that Richard Eale, 6d., ought to be present and is not and therefore is at the mercy of the Court."

"[. .] 9 Edw iv 1469-70

"The village of Leeke is at the mercy of the Court for default, because no one came to make presentments at this Court. Tho. Mylne frankpledgeman. Fine imposed 4½d."

Other Courts—21 Oct 1 Rich iii 1483 Persons named Robt Boonde (Bonde) frankpledgeman, John Tervile

"2 Hen viii 1510-1—Richd Mylner frankpledgeman—John Wheytley fined.

"5 Hen viii. 1513-4 Do.

"6 ——— 1514-5 Robt Bonde frankpledgeman presents the common fine 4½d. Also fine of the freemen, 6d. Also fine of William Mylner, 8d., Catherine Turvell, 12d., Robert Cosby, 8d., for non-attendances. And presents Robert Tonley as frankpledgeman for the next year."

"22 Hen viii 1530-1 John Bryd and John Baldok frankpledgemen."

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(1) Webster, was John Wayt's trade and description.
(2) Mag'ot is apparently a local form of Margaret, *i.e.*, Magerot.
(3) These villages are conjoined in each of the Plumtree Courts.

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COURTS OF TICKHILL HONOUR.[1]

"28 Hen viii 1536-7. Estur Leeke. Robert Smyth frankpledgemen presents that Francis Leeke, esquire, 2d., & Ralf Shorley, Knight, 2d., ought to be present."

"29 Hen viii 1537-8 Estur Leeke." As last—with addition "and that all else is well."

"34 Hen viii 1542-3 Estur Leek. Godfrey Prate pledgeman presents that Thomas Leeke Gentleman, Richd Stevyson, Francis Cherley esquire, Gelian Crosby[2] are free tenants and owe suit to the Court."

There are similar entries—"7, Edw. VI., 1553; 1, Mary, 1553-4; 2, Mary, 1554."

"2 and 3 Philip and Mary 1555-6 Ester Leek The Frankpledgeman presents that John Sanders gentleman, George Swynynston Esquire, Hugh Esybrygge gentleman, and John Esterbye gentleman, are free tenants and owe suit, etc."

"9 Elizabeth 1566-7—Ester Leeke William Burrows frankpledgeman presents that Thomas Leeke (excused) Esqre and Francis Sherley esquire, the heirs of Robert Stevenson, the heirs of Godfrey Pratte, the heirs of Richard Sheffield are free tenants, and owe suit, etc."

The same "9 Eliz: 1567."

"2 April 24 Eliz: 1582.

"Court at Stanford. William Borrow chief pledgeman of East Leake states on oath that Thomas Leak Esquire Gabriel Stapleton gentleman Isabel Shefeld, the widow of Ralf Partrick and William Borrowes are free tenants of the Queen and owe suit to this Court. And that Tho. Mercer, Nicholas Swatman, Thomas Abbotson, John Hartshorne, William Gisborne, and William Willemot are residents and owe suit, etc. . . ."

"1 Oct 24 Eliz 1582"—The same return.

"8 April 25 Eliz 1583.

"William Borrow chief pledgeman of East Leake states

(1) These appear to be the successors of the Plumptree Wapentake Courts.

(2) *i.e.*, Julian Crosby, Rector.

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on oath that Thomas Leake Esquire, Gabriell Stapleton and Ralf Partrick (excused) are free tenants of the lady, Queen (Elizab.) and owe suit to this Court and that each of them has made suit as appears by the note over his name; and that Simon Blankettre, Richard Lane, Thomas Mercer, Nicholas Swatnam, Thomas Abbotson, John Hartsorne (excused), William Gisborne, and William Willemot are residents and owe suit and that each of them has done it etc. . . ."

THE HIRINGS.

This village was a hiring place for a long period, hirings being held four times in the year.[1] It appears to have been a centre for a wide district, for the statement of a Wymeswold neighbour[2] in 1840 is that there was "a great statute for hiring for servants."

By 1844 the hirings were reduced to three in each year, viz., on Candlemas Day (February 2), and the first and last Fridays in November.

The hirings were at their height about 1848-50. Old residents relate that the crowd of servants waiting to be hired was so great, that the main street for more than 200 yards, the road from the Church to the School, and the West Leake Lane, were filled with them.

As late as 1864 Wright's Directory gives three hiring days, but very soon after this date the hirings declined and ceased.

(1) Wright's Directory, 1832.
(2) T. R. Potter.

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BROOKSIDE.

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CHAPTEK X.

Village Trades and Population.

The earliest, and for centuries the leading occupation of the village was agriculture. As late as 1813 a traveller (Laird) describes the village as "consisting principally of farm houses." Minor allied trades as those of the miller, the blacksmith, the wheelwright, the saddler must have existed for a similar period. At one time there were four mills, viz.: Kirk's Mill, at the top of Woodgate; Wild's Mill at the bottom of Woodgate; Hardy's Mill, on Brickliffe; and a fourth on Mill Hill. The small enclosures in which the first three were placed are still in existence, and the old approach to the Mill on Mill Hill can be seen on Brookside. Hardy's Mill was overturned in a storm, when the miller was at work within: he escaped unhurt. These picturesque landmarks have one by one been destroyed under the pressure of competition with steam mills. The parish map of 1830 shews two mills, Kirk's and Hardy's.

In 1798 the land let, on an average, for 20/- an acre and the agricultural labourer's wage was 1/- to 1/6 a day.[1]

Weaving was carried on in the early portion of the 19th century. Some of the old weavers survived to the forties,

(1) Lowe's Report on the Agriculture of Notts.

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though no weaving was then done. In White's Directory of 1844 there is no weaver named among the village tradesmen.

In 1815 lace making is described as the chief trade of the village. The bobbin net machines provided work for the men, and lace mending, work for the women. In the memory of living persons there were as many as twelve machines at work at one time. Some, who entered early into this trade prospered; while others who followed it later lost their all, for steam power revolutionized this as other trades.

The trade which produced the greatest change in the village, and led to a rapid increase in its population, was that of stocking making on hand frames. This was, naturally enough, regarded as a Nottinghamshire trade, the inventor of the stocking frame being a Nottinghamshire clergyman. It is not known when the trade was brought to East Leake, but probably it was at the close of the 18th century, when it spread into many villages of the county. There was a rapid rise in the population between 1795 and 1801. In or about 1795 there were only eighty houses, representing a population of 400, but in 1801 the census return gives a population of 608. So great an increase can only be explained by the advent to the village of a new industry. Once established, this trade developed to such an extent that in 1851 there were about sixty frames at work. The population rose in consequence of this flourishing state to the high water mark of 1148. From that time the trade declined, and in 1902 only six frames were worked.

In Mr. Lowe's report, alluded to above, he incidentally remarks that the Poor Rate increased in those villages where trades were carried on, and particularly where there was stocking making. The reason he gives is, that the money was spent as fast as it was earned. It was for this reason that in the halcyon days of the middle of the 19th century, East Leake was only outwardly prosperous, and that a period of poverty followed.

The staple trade of the village at the present time is basket making. The trade came to the village in this way.

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A certain William Mills, of West Leake, married a woman from Ratcliff-on-Soar, by name Withers, and by trade a basketmaker. Mrs. Mills taught her husband this trade, and they, with the co-operation of her father and mother, developed a good business at West Leake, working entirely to the orders of a London tradesman. Three sons, born to them, were taught the trade; and two, John and William, eventually settled in East Leake, and commenced business as basket makers. From this beginning, in or about 1830, the trade has developed so much that at the present time fifty-four hands are employed. The wages first earned were from ten shillings to thirteen shillings a week, as compared with the agricultural labourer's nine shillings to ten shillings. That wage can be doubled at the present time by a competent hand. At first, the work was all white work, such as office and plate baskets; but now, all kinds of basket work are made.

Gypsum mining now gives employment to thirty-six men at wages which compare favourably with those earned at basketmaking. During the curacy of the Rev. G. A. Sneyd, there was much poverty in the village. In order to alleviate this, Mr. Sneyd—who was then the prospective Rector—opened a pit on land belonging to Mr. Wootton. This proved a financial failure, and for many years no further effort was made to work the mineral which had been proved. In 1898, after the opening of the Great Central Railway, the Barnstone Blue Lias Lime Co. took a lease of the minerals on Hotchley Farm, and now carry on an extensive trade. In 1903, the same Company opened a pit on the adjacent land, of which they are the owners.

THE POPULATION.

The following figures give the rise and fall of the population of the village, and illustrate the story of the coming and going of its trades:—

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Date.	Houses.	Population,
1086		180 (?)
1795	80	400 (?)
1801	118	608
1811		737
1821	159	783
1831		975
1841	231	1,057
1851		1,148
1861	268	1,059
1871		1,031
1881	230	943
1891	208	819
1901	210	876
		431 males; 445 females.

NOTES.

The acreage of the parish is 2,540 acres.

The births and burials for the five years 1789—1793 were respectively—fifty, and thirty-five; the corresponding figures for West Leake being fourteen, and sixteen.

In 1795 there were thirty-four houses in West Leake.

In 1815 the annual value of real property was £2,865. In that year there were 162 persons in Friendly Societies.

In 1821, ninety-nine were engaged in agriculture, sixty-three in trade, etc. In that year eleven families were permanently relieved out of and one in the workhouse.

In 1901, in addition to the 210 inhabited houses, there were twenty occupied but not inhabited, eleven empty houses, and four in building.

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CHAPTER XI.

The Enclosure.

The East Leake commonable lands were enclosed under an Act of Parliament dated 38 Geo. III., the process occupying three years, 1798—1801.

A reference to the Terrier of 1748, printed in the Appendix, will enable the reader to appreciate the position of an owner of landed property before the Enclosure. In that, the Rector is found to be possessed of eighty-three plots or allotments scattered over the whole area of the parish, a total holding of 40ac. 1r. 20p. If the Terrier of 1809, made after the Enclosure, is compared with this, the altered and more convenient position will at once be seen. The whole land which was given in lieu of these eighty-three plots was grouped together on the East side of Normanton Road, on the South border of the parish. The amount allotted (including an equivalent value for common rights) was 48a. 2r. 30p.

The Commissioners appointed under the Act were Edward Dawson, Joseph Boultbee, John Seagrave, John Chamberlin, and John Bailey—the latter being a professional surveyor.

The first work was to set out what roads, footpaths, and bridges were required. A plot of ground "not exceeding six

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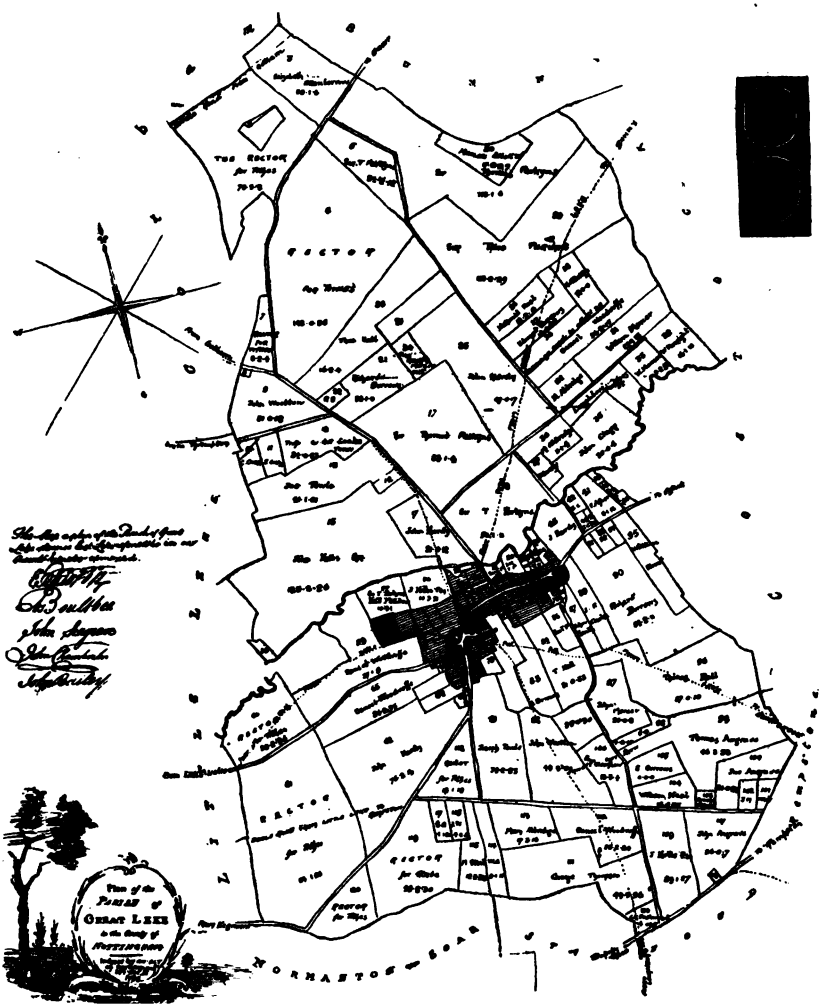
View of the Parish of Great Leake in the County of Nottingham
Rector
Rector for Tithes
Rector for Glebe
Rector for Tithes
Rector for Tithes
Rector for Tithes

acres" was allotted to the overseers for stone and gravel for the roads.

Next, the Rector's allotment was determined, an equivalent being given for glebe and common rights, and $\frac{1}{7}$ of the whole in lieu of tithes, great and small. In the Award the Rector is described "as such entitled to certain glebe lands and common right in the said open fields, lanes, closes, meadows, pastures and commonable places, and to a Cottage with common right belonging thereto, and to all the great and small tithes arising reversing and increasing out of and from all the lands and grounds thereby intended to be divided and enclosed, and also to all the great and small tithe of all the yards, gardens, orchards, homesteads, and old enclosed land lying within the said parish of Great Leke otherwise East Leke."

Other claims were then taken and settled, and opportunities were given for changing allotments by mutual agreement.

There are various stories still current in connection with the Enclosure, which may be recorded. It is scarcely necessary to add that they need not be accepted as matters of fact.

1. There were various enclosed plots of land before the general Enclosure. One of these was owned by a certain man—Yerby by name. This field was a very choice possession in his eyes. In consequence he either gave it, or, more probably, it received the name of Yerby's Heaven. This little enclosure was thrown into the whole amount of land divisible, and as the Commissioners did not see fit to assign the same to the old owner, Mr. Yerby lost his heaven on earth. The field connected with this story is situated on the West side of Gotham lane, and is now owned by Mr. Thomas Wilson.

2. Where many interests are involved there is almost always some one or more of those concerned ready to think evil, and to forget the good national motto "Honi soit qui mal y pense." In this case some thought that others received a little more than was their due. In particular, Daniel

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Woodroffe was thought to have gained a field beyond his rightful claims. It was suggested that he had been very hospitable to the Commissioners, and that the rum bottle had been used as a plea in his favour. Regardless of the consequences, the parishioners named this field, which is situated up Taft Leys Lane, Rum Bottle Close. It is known by this name to this day.

3. It was natural enough for the stone throwers to fling a stone at Mr. Hastings, the Rector. There were those ready to say that the Rector received more than his due. This idea arose, no doubt, from a confusion of the tithe, and glebe claims. White's Directory has been instrumental in perpetuating this charge, by stating that 466 acres of land were allotted in lieu of tithes. The true account is given in the Terrier for 1809, that 416a. 3r. 29p. were allotted in lieu of tithes great and small, and 48a. 2r. 30p. were allotted in lieu of glebe lands and common rights.

The Enclosure was instrumental in bringing a wide area of waste land into cultivation, and, as the gables of our farm buildings witness, gave a great impulse to building.

One of the minor disadvantages which followed it was, that some ancient roads and historical landmarks were obliterated.

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CHAPTER XII.

Persons of Note.

THE LEAKES.

The family which took its name from this village naturally claims first place in these notices.

It is not certain whether the Leakes were Saxons or Normans. The name does not appear in the list of those who came over with the Conqueror, and this suggests that the family were of Saxon, rather than Norman origin. The first allusion to the family in the manor history tends to the same conclusion, for Alan de Leca buys lands from Robert Earl Ferrers, grandson of the first Earl, and the land is described as having been "the said Alan's Parents." It is of course possible that these purchased the land from Earl Robert's father or grandfather, but it seems more probable that the de Lecas were owners before the Conquest.

Cox[1] says, that after some continuance here the Leakes migrated, some to Sutton-in-Scarsdale, in Derbyshire, and others to Stanton or Staunton, in Leicestershire. The latter branch changed their name to Staunton. Staunton Harold is so called from Harold de Leca who resided there. Another branch of the family settled at Hallam by Southwell, and

(1) Magna Britannia.

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were known as the Leekes of Hallam. It is doubtful if all the Leakes left the village which gave them their name. They certainly retained a connection with it for a long time, their names appear periodically as landowners there. As late as 1707 a Francis Leake of this place gave evidence at "The Nag's Head," Bradmore, in the matter of the value of Thorpe benefice.[1]

The pedigree of the Leakes is given in the Harleian Society's accounts of the Heralds Visitation for the years 1569 and 1614.

Members of this family are found as Rectors of adjoining, or neighbouring parishes; but, strangely enough, no Leake was Rector of Leake.

Nicholas de Leyk was Rector of Keyworth in 1270,
Peter de Leyke (pbr) Rector of Gotham before 1303,
John de Leek, Rector of St. Michæl's, Sutton Bonington, up to 1358.
Roger Leke (pbr) was Rector of Costock in 1410, and
John Leke (pbr) Rector of Keyworth prior to 1420.

Among notable lay members of this family two may be mentioned, Sir John Leek, and Sir Francis Leek, afterwards Earl of Scarsdale.

Sir John Leek was a member of the Sutton branch of the family. He is first mentioned in 1513 as an Esquire, but soon afterward he received the honour of Knighthood. Sir John appears in the list of "the names of the Captayns and Pety Captayns . . . . of the Aremy and Vantgard of the Kyng's Lefftenaunt entering in to France, the 16th day of June, in the 5th yer of the Reigne of Kynge Henry VIII, 1513."[2] A note is appended "The said Sir John mad Knyght at Lylle."

On the 10th of September, 1522, Sir John made his will, and in it gave his reason for doing so—"being about to take the viage towards Scotland" in the King's army. This march seems to have been in consequence of the alliance between

(1) Godfrey—Churches of Rushclifte.
(2) Cottonian MS. Cleopatra Chap. 5.

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the French King and the King of Scotland, Henry VIII being at that time in alliance with the Emperor. Henry's army was sent to hold Scotland in check.

Sir John died on December 11th, 1522, just two months after he made his will. At his death he was found to be possessed of manors, lands, meadow, pasture, woods, and rent in various places, amongst which were Parva (Little) Leek, and Magna (Great) Leek. He left as heir a son, Francis, aged "13 years and upwards." It is stated at the Inquisition which followed his death, that a marriage was to be arranged between this boy, and Elizabeth daughter of George Chaworth.[1] Francis became a person of great prominence in Queen Elizabeth's reign.

Sir Francis Leke a member of the Derbyshire branch of the family, is the best known of the Leakes. He stands 6th in the list of Baronets, his creation bearing date May 22nd, 1611. Thirteen years later, October 26th, 1624, he was made a Baron, with the style and title of Lord Deyncourt of Sutton. It is not often that we are able to trace the ways and means by which honours were given. In this case we are able to do so. By a strange oversight a letter from the Duke of Buckingham to King James I. has been preserved from destruction, in which the suggestion is made that Sir Francis Leake should be made a Baron. The Duke lived at Brookesby Hall, whence he wrote many of his letters to the King.

A postscript is attached to one of these letters, which commences "Dear dad and gossip," and ends "Your Majesty's most humble slave and dog, Stinie," "Here is a gentleman, called Sir Francis Leake, who hath likewise a philosopher's stone; 'tis worth but eight thousand; he will give it me, if you will make him a Baron. I will, if you command not the contrary have his patent ready for you to sign, when I come down; he is of good religion, well-born, and hath a good

(1) Inquis. post mortem (Thoroton Society Publication pp. 127, 128).

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estate. I pray you burn this letter."[1]

The letter was not burnt, and we now know how Sir Francis was raised to the peerage.

In the troublous times which soon followed, Lord Deyncourt assisted King Charles with advice, supplies of money, and personal assistance. He was rewarded with an Earldom, and became Earl of Scarsdale. The patent conferring this dignity upon him bears date, November 11th, 21 Car. I, 1646, and was issued from Oxford, where the Court then was. The title became extinct through the failure of heirs male.

There have been ignoble, as well as noble members of this family. One, Thomas Leek, who was slain in Queen Elizabeth's reign, by a man named Samon, left a natural son Thomas. This son is described as having been brought over from Ireland in the beginning of the Long Parliament, to witness against Thomas, Earl of Strafford. He "bangled away his Estate, and died an old man, in prison, 2 Charles II."

JULIAN CROSBY.

JULIAN CROSBY held the Rectory of Leake from April, 1517 to 1554. These dates are significant. Henry VIII had been on the throne about eight years when Mr. Crosby was instituted. The final conflict with the Pope, which ended in the Church of England regaining her freedom and independence, had not yet commenced. Mr. Crosby remained at Leake through all the changes and chances of the reigns of Henry and Edward VI. In spite of the temporary reaction Romewards in Mary's reign, the Rector was left in undisturbed possession. In the second year of Queen Mary, the old Rector died.

It is easy to dismiss a man like this as a "Vicar of Bray," but he was one of a large number who acted in the same way, and few will venture to say that "Vicars of Bray" were so

(1) "Memorials and Letters relating to the History of Britain, in the Reign of James the First," 1762; published by David Dalrymple, Glasgow. Quoted by T. R. Potter—"Rambles round Loughborough."

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numerous. It is fairer, and probably nearer the truth, to say that Mr. Crosby, as others, recognized that Catholicity did not depend on union with Rome, nor truth on Papal benediction. Men were quick to realize that the Reformation did not rob them of the essentials of doctrine and Church order.

The resident Curate at East Leake at this time—to whom the Commissioners of Church goods gave the custody of chalice, paten, and bells, in the reign of King Edward VI.—was Robert Watson.

EDWARD BIGLAND, S.T.B.

EDWARD BIGLAND was Rector of East and West Leake from 1620 to 1649, and was the second successive Fellow of Queen's College, Cambridge, presented to the living by the patron, the Earl of Huntingdon. It is quite likely that he owed his nomination to his predecessor, John Davenant, then President of Queen's College, Cambridge.

Mr. Bigland's ministry coincided with the troublous times of the Civil War. When men were obliged to take sides, this Rector of Leake pronounced for the King. On the same side the majority of the neighbouring gentry ranged themselves. Among the minority was Gilbert Millington, of the adjoining parish of Sutton Bonnington, who afterwards was a member of the High Court of Justice, which sentenced King Charles to death.

We may fairly conclude that Gilbert Millington was at the bottom of Mr. Bigland's troubles, which began so soon as the Parliament won the day. The septuagenarian Rector was seized by the emissaries of the Government, and dragged as a prisoner towards Nottingham. The journey was, for some reason, not accomplished in the day, and the old man was forced to lie in a wagon in the open field. As a result of this exposure, Mr. Bigland received so severe a chill that an attack of ague supervened, and he became palsied. This was by no means all his troubles, for he was ejected from the living which he held. It is not surprising to learn that he

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succumbed within a few months to this harsh treatment.

The ejection and death of this aged clergyman was not enough to satisfy Cromwell's commissioners, for they proceeded to appropriate his personal estate, and placed his real estate for some years under sequestration. It is not unlikely that these troubles hastened the end of Mr. Bigland's widow Eighteen months after her husband, Mary Bigland was laid to rest beside him in St. Helen's Church, West Leake.

The tombstone of these martyrs for their King may be seen at the West end of the Church. The inscription on Mr. Bigland's memorial runs, "Hic jacet Ed Bigland Sacræ Theologiæ Baccalaureus hujus Ecclesiæ Rector, Qui obiit Aug 2 ætatis suæ 75 Anno 1650," and that of Mrs. Bigland, "Here lieth Mary Bendish his wife, who died March 9, in the 68 year of her Age An 1652."

Across the two memorial slabs, which lie side by side, runs the inscription "Quos Christus junxit haud mors separavit," *i.e.*, "They whom Christ joined death did not separate."

In their present position, in which they were placed at the restoration of the Church, these slabs speak falsely, for we learn from Thoroton that when he visited the Church (about 1677) they were in the chancel. It is to be hoped that some day they may be replaced in their original position.

"MASTER NEALE."

The Curate of East Leake, for a portion of the time that Mr. Bigland held the Rectory, was a certain "Master Neale." He is saved from oblivion in a remarkable manner, and by an event unconnected with the parish which he served. In the year 1646, when the Civil War was raging, it was rumoured that the lake in Garendon had become blood. A pamphlet of the time—and it was a time of many pamphlets—says that "Beholders of all degrees and conditions came to dip their handkerchiefs in the bloody Pool." "For four days the concourse and commotion, the wonder and fear, were such as had

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never before been witnessed. 'The true narration,' adds the chronicler of the times, 'should be printed in its own *rubrick*. . . . . Knights, gentlemen, and ladies, and peasants and their families, stood all close together round about it, overcome with amazement.' The town of Loughborough had to bear the blame, 'for the Lord of Loughborough, the great agent of the King, had done it by his wrongful deeds.' The world was coming to an end! There could be no doubt of it, 'and Master Neale, of Great Leake,' greatly enlightened people's darkness by his learned disquisition on the phenomenon—'the Judgement.' This sapient gentleman 'did put spurs to his horse, who did fling back and snorted, and was unwilling to go the pond, for clots of congealed blood did rise up.' The reader will hardly require to be told that the explanation of the whole matter will be found in the little red worm often found in clusters at the bottom of our ponds and and brooks."—*From T. R. Potter's "Rambles round Loughborough," 1868.*

MICHAEL STANHOPE, S.T.P.

Rector 1717—1737.

MICHAEL STANHOPE was the son of the Hon. Charles Stanhope, of Mansfield, and a scion of the Nottinghamshire family of that name, whose head was the Earl of Chesterfield, and whose family seat was at Shelford. He was nominated Rector of East and West Leake, by his mother, Frances Stanhope, who, it may be presumed, had purchased the next presentation from the patron or patroness for the time being.

Before Michael Stanhope became Rector of these parishes he had attained a position of note, for we find him preaching the Sermon at Whitehall, on the occasion of the Thanksgiving for the defeat of the Pretender and his French allies in 1708. While Rector of East and West Leake, in 1723, he preached before the House of Commons.

At the Archdeacon of Nottingham's Visitation, in 1722, Mr. Stanhope was the preacher. When the sermon was

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ended, the Archdeacon[1] rose, and entered an emphatic protest against the doctrines which had been set forth. This unusual course of action created no little sensation. Mr. Stanhope, with admirable self-control, made no reply at the time, but afterwards vindicated himself in dignified and restrained language, in a printed letter. This, together with several published sermons remain.

He was buried at Shelford, on July 20th, 1737.

THEOPHILUS HENRY HASTINGS, M.A.

Theophilus Henry Hastings, M.A., Rector of East and West Leake, from August 1795 to 1804, after the lapse of a century, is mentioned in village talk. He was appointed to the living[2] by his relative, Francis Rawdon Hastings, Earl of Moira. It was during his rectorate that the Wesleyans built their first Chapel. The Rector plainly resented this, and in unmeasurable terms spoke his mind from the pulpits of the two Churches of East and West Leake. He was not content to speak, but published what he had preached. The title of the publication is as follows:—

EIGHT
SERMONS
Upon the 16th Chap. of the Revelation to St John
Preached in the
CONSOLIDATED CHURCHES OF WEST AND EAST LEKE,
To confute the
Methodists, Jacobins, and Atheists there
and confirm the Members
of the
ESTABLISHED CHURCH
in the Doctrines and Duties of Christianity,
by the
REV. THEOPHILUS HENRY HASTINGS, M.A.,
Rector,
And now sent forth for the good of the Public.

---

(1) Robert Marsden, Rector of Rempstone, whose tomb is in the old Churchyard of Rempstone.

(2) He appears to have been the Theophilus Hastings who acted as Curate of the parishes, under Mr. Wheler, from 1755 to 1763. This is the more likely inasmuch as the Baptist records tell of a conflict with the Clergy at that time.

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IN VERITATE VICTORIA.

To which are added an exact copy of a Letter, under the Nottingham Post Mark, from a Person unknown, who, as he says of himself is *illiturate*, or insane:—And a Libel stuck on the Gate of his stable yard, for the Discovery of The Writer, or Publisher of which, Five Guineas Reward will be given.

LOUGHBOROUGH:
Printed and Sold by ADAMS, JUNR., Market Place.
Sold also
By TUPMAN, Nottingham; DREWRY, Derby; and IRELAND AND SON, Leicester.
1800.
Price—Two-Shillings-and-Six-Pence.

The vigour of the Sermons, and the forcible character of the language, can best be understood by two extracts. At page six, we read "If a Methodist Preacher, whether he be old or young, whether he comes on horseback or on foot, whether it be in a licensed widow's house, or at the corner of a street that he vociferates Lord, Lord, it is still a private administration. He preaches without being sent; unless he is sent by the Devil, or necessity obliges him to quit his stocking frame, his awl, or his loom, his plow, his harrow, or his scuffler; or idleness prompts him to do it: or perhaps, nay I believe the truth is that with all the runagate itinerant preachers whether Church parsons, or Methodist parsons, with them gain is godliness; though with St. Paul, godliness is gain."

At page ninety-eight, the preacher says "This is the great day of God Almighty, on which these worldly and wicked men, these Methodists, Jacobins and Atheists, these branches of Popery, these popish and pagan princes with all their power, and all their forces, and armies they are able to muster, Gebal and Ammon and Amalek, the Philistines also and them that dwell at Tyre, Great Leke, Little Leke will come forth against the Lord Jesus and against those Christian Kings and princes who have been serious and studious in the profession and practice of the Christian religion; and exerted all their powers to dry up those streams of corruption; Popery, Methodism, Jacobinism and Atheism."

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MR. THOS. COOPER ANGRAVE.

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The letter alluded to in the title page is a curious and amusing production. One of the raciest bits is the following: "I wish to come over to Little Leak In about a Month's Time to hear you preach. I long to hear you for I'm told you schould in your Sermons and call the Jacobins Alto Pieces and as I profess to be a true and Lyol Man to the King and Constitution of Great Brittan I hope you will send me Word When you can make a good scoulding Sermon for I'm told you Scould in your Sermons. But kind Sir dont scould me for I've had my pennyworths I think with my poor Silly Wife and if you had been scoulded as much as I have been you would not follow That Womanly Practice."

A story is told of Mr. Hastings which bears the stamp of truth. Mr. Thomas Cooper Angrave, in his capacity as parish Constable, demanded from the Rector payment of a certain due. He refused to pay this, and in consequence a writ was obtained. Mr. Hastings being met with in the fields, refused to accept service, and, the brook being in flood, walked deliberately into the water to evade it. Mr. Angrave, not to be outdone, followed him and there served the writ.

One more story survives, and is recorded by the late Mr. T. R. Potter.[1] Mr. Hastings resolved to take to himself a wife in his old age, and published his own banns in the following unusual manner:—"I publish the banns of marriage between Theophilus Hastings—meaning myself—and Betty —meaning my housekeeper. If any of you know cause, etc." This marriage appears to have been the solution of a difficulty which Mr. Hastings put thus—"Betty, I dont know what to do *with* you; but I dont know what to do *without* you."[2]

With all his eccentricities, Mr. Potter tells us that he was still remembered in 1840 as a kind-hearted man.

A monument to his memory in West Leake Church, on

(1) "Walks round Loughborough" 1840, p. 90.

(2) The marriage is registered at West Leake. The entry reads, "Theophilus Henry Hastings and Elizabeth Warner both of this parish were married in this Church by Banns this twenty fifth Day of April one Thousand seven Hundred and ninety seven." The marriage was solemnized by T. Needham, Curate, and was witnessed by Joseph Vickors and Elizabeth Toone.

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THE VILLAGE STREET, SHEWING MR. BLEY'S HOUSE.

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the East wall of the chancel reads thus:—"To the Memory of The Revd T. H. Hastings, M.A., late Rector of this Parish. In his Deportment he was a finished Gentleman; in Honour, Honesty, and Truth he was Princely; Rich in the possession of the most liberal Heart; and the greatest distress he laboured under, was the want of Abilities to relieve the distresses of others. He was born October the 18th 1728 and died April 2nd 1804. In veritate victoria."

His grave is outside the chancel. At the head of it is a simple slate head-stone with the inscription—"Beneath are the Remains of the Revd T. H. Hastings, M.A. late Rector of this Parish.—Let no one be Buried in the Church."

This inscription savours of Mr. Hastings himself. His common sense injunction might well be universally obeyed.

The West Leake Terrier of 1809 describes the Rectory as being left by Mr. Hastings in a very ruinous state, and the Rector as dying insolvent.

JOHN BLEY.

JOHN BLEY is East Leake's greatest known benefactor. He is described on his tomb as a native of this place, but there is no entry of his baptism in the Church register. An old parishioner says that the house where he was brought up was a stone house, situated in the garden of the Manor Farm house, wrongly named in the ordnance map Brookside Farm. It is plain that material from another building was used in the erection of the present house. It is said that John Bley used to go to school to Hoton, and that he vowed that if he ever were a rich man, he would build a school for his native village. He went to London a poor boy, and eventually set up in business as a distiller. Having amassed a considerable fortune, he retired to end his days at East Leake. He built the gabled house—Joice's Manor-house—in 1715, enlarging it in 1728. His vow was not forgotten, and in 1724 he built the fine old school house, which the first School Board demolished. Over the door was the inscription "This School was built in

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the year 1724 by Mr John Bley." Mr. Bley endowed this school with £450, which was invested in twenty-five acres of land at Burton-on-the-Wolds and Wymeswold, which produced, in 1864, £50 per annum. For this sum, the master taught all the poor boys and girls of the parish.

This was not Mr. Bley's only gift to the village, for at his death he bequeathed ten pounds to every farmer, and five pounds to every cottager, with the exception of one, Doughty by name, whom he excluded for idleness. He likewise left ten pounds to the poor of every village bordering on East Leake. He died in London, May 28th, 1731, in his 57th year, and his body was brought to East Leake for burial. His tombstone is at the East end of the Church.

RICHARD HAWLEY,
Schoolmaster.

Few village schoolmasters attained greater fame than Mr. Hawley, who was for forty-eight years schoolmaster of the Bley School. His fame outlives him. The Bley School was attended in his day by many children from the surrounding villages, and in addition to day scholars, a number of boarders were taken at the school house and the adjacent cottage, which was built for their reception.

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Mr. Hawley was a geologist of some repute, and possessed a good collection of geological specimens. One of his daughters married the eminent geologist, Professor Etheridge. He died on May 8th, 1867, at Quorn, in Leicestershire—where he lived after his retirement from scholastic work—aged seventy-seven years, and was buried at East Leake in a grave adjacent to that of Mr. Bley, the founder of the school in which he had so long laboured.

THE REV. JOHN BATEMAN.

Rector 1836—1882.

The Rev. John Bateman was the second son of Richard Thomas Bateman, Esq., of Wheathill, in Derbyshire, and was born in St. Mary's Gate, Derby, in 1800. He was educated at Repton School, whence he proceeded to St. John's College, Cambridge. He took the degree of B.A., in 1822, and M.A., in 1826. In this latter year he was ordained by the Bishop of Lichfield, and licensed to the Curacy of Mackworth. From Mackworth he went to Littleover, 1828. In 1836, he was instituted to the Rectory of East and West Leake, on his own nomination.

For a period he filled the office of Rural Dean of the Deanery of West Bingham. He was also Dean of the Peculiar of Hartington, an office which carried with it neither duty or

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emolument. During the time that he was Rector the Church of St. Helen, West Leake, was restored, and many alterations were also made in the mother Church of East Leake.

The Church schoolroom at East Leake, built on the Glebe, bearing date 1850, was his gift to the Church.

It fell to his lot to be the last Dean of Hartington, and the last Rector of East and West Leake.

He died on May 2nd, 1882, and was buried at West Leake, on May the 6th. His memory is still cherished, the memory of one who was a pattern to his flock.

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CHAPTER XIII.

Historical Notes and Local Stories.

An inventory of goods belonging to the Church of East Leake was made on September 4th, 1553, being the sixth year of Edward VI. This exists, and runs as follows:—"Est Leyke 4 Sep, 6 Edw VI. Imprimis a chales sylver parcel gylt with patent, one vestment red saten, and one old vestment red grene sylke, and one vestment rosite and grene say, one cokope grene say, ii albis, ii alter Clothes, iii towelles, one surplis, ii brase candlestikes, a crosse of brasse, and iii belles." Following this, is the note about the missing sacring bell which is given above.[1]

On the 8th of May, in the following year, the Commissioners of Church goods delivered the chalice and paten, and three bells, above mentioned, to Robert Watson, Curate of East Leake.

On the 17th September, 1644, there was a skirmish on the East side of East Leake, in the field known as Brickley, between men of the Royalist garrison of Ashby-de-la-Zouch[2], and men of the Parliamentary Garrison, of Leicester. The

(1) Page 57.

(2) The Garrison of Ashby-de-la-Zouch throughout the war was under the Command of Col. Sir George Parkyns, of Bunney. (See tombstone in the Chancel of Bunney Church).

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Leicester troops were conducting a convoy to Nottingham, and the Ashby garrison, getting wind of it, attacked, but were defeated, and driven off with loss. Bailey, in his "Annals of Notts.," says that eight men were killed, and sixty taken prisoners. Four of these eight were buried in East Leake Churchyard, being "slaine . . in our Lordship," as the register records. Their burial place is reputed to be beneath a slab nearly opposite to the porch.

Various relics of this skirmish have been found from time to time. A sword was unearthed by a plough on Brickley; and broken weapons were found on the South side of The Sik, on the Lings Farm, when that field was first broken up, about sixty years ago.

A cannon ball, now in Loughborough Museum, which was found about 1890, in the basement of an old bakehouse near the bottom of Castle Lane, may have been fired in this engagement. It was found embedded some nine inches in the limestone foundation of the building on the South side, *i.e.*, in the direction in which the fighting took place.

HISTORIC SITES.

THE CASTLE.—A tradition, which can certainly be traced back for four generations, claims that there was once a Castle at the East end of the village. The road leading from the village to Loughborough was fomerly called Castle Lane, and that *district* is still popularly known as The Castle. The fields near are also called Castle Closes.

This may be a lingering memory of an ancient earthwork, or stronghold, of which traces are visible West of Castle Lane; or, more probably, of a Castle built and demolished in the troubled reign of Stephen. In that reign most of the lords of manors built Castles or fortified houses; and at its close, in 1153, a large number of the 1,115 which had been built were destroyed because they menanced the authority of the King. When Henry II came to the throne, in 1154, he demolished the remainder of these Castles.

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THE MANOR HOUSE, OR THE HALL.—From the 12th or 13th century a Manor House stood in the field due West of the Church, known as The Hall Orchard Field. We learn from the mural monument in Bunney Church, that Sir Thomas Parkyns[1] purchased "ye Manors and Estate in Est Leake . . . of ye Armstrongs." This was at the close of the 17th century.

The same monument says that "He built ye Manor House in . . East Leake." Sir Thomas early developed his taste, or passion, for building. He who dearly loved to throw his opponent in the wrestling match, threw down old buildings to raise them in greater magnificence. So it came about that the old Hall of East Leake gave place to another, of the Baronet's own design.

It is a fortunate thing that before this new Hall was destroyed, Mr. John Hardy, of East Leake, copied the inscription on the East façade. To this we owe our knowledge of the date, and other circumstances connected with the building of the house. The inscription ran thus:—"Hasce Ædis Excogitabuit Delinearuit et operariis non modo Quotidie Interfuit Uerum Etiam præfuit quasi archetectus Thomas Parkyns 2dus Gentis suæ Baronettas. AD. 1704."

Translated into Sir Thomas' English,[2] this will read:—"Thomas Parkyns, the second Baronet of his family, contrived and drew this house; and not only was daily present with the workmen, but also superintended as architect. A.D. 1704."

The house was never finished. Local tradition is very clear upon this point. Some have conversed with those who in childhood played in the unfinished rooms of the Hall; others remember their parents telling them that a few poor folk made the rooms which were finished their dwellings.

After a time, the house was sold for building materials, and it is said that the bridge over the Soar at Kegworth and a farmhouse at West Leake were built out of it. Some of the old stone from the building remains in the village in the

(1) b. 1663 d. 1741.

(2) Vide the Bunney Monument.

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copings of the pinfold, and the old churchyard wall. The belfry doorway is probably made from material derived from the same source.

The foundations, which are still to some extent traceable, indicate that the Hall was a building of large proportions.

Sir Thomas' Hall was built across the Western side of the moat which enclosed the old manor house. This moat, in part visible, appears to have enclosed about three acres of ground. The moat measured about 160 by 84 yards.

CALKE HALL—mis-spelt in old maps and documents Cork, Chauke, and Chaulke—is the outlying farmyard of the Rectory farm, situated at the West border of the parish, on the bridle road from Rempstone to Kegworth. The name recalls the connection of the property with Calke Abbey, in Leicestershire, in the 12th century. There are no traces of the Hall or house which the Canons of Calke had there for their managing bailiff. The present barn was erected in 1803 by the Rev. Theoph. H. Hastings, out of the material of an old barn on the Rectory premises at West Leake.

THE THREE HORSE SHOES INN.—This is the oldest of the village inns, and has an interesting history apart from the sessions of the magistrates, which were formerly held there. The present house is the second to bear the sign and name. The original Three Horse Shoes Inn is the old smithy house on The Green. The sign post was in position until a time within the memory of the present occupant of the house.

The sign has its own interest, for it can be accounted for by the coat of arms of the Touks, of Leake. By omitting the chevronel from the coat of arms you have at once the sign of the Three Horse Shoes. If this origin[1] of the sign is correct, the village has in this house an historic link with one of the leading families in the 12th century.

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(1) It is possible that this sign may point back to the de Ferrers' ownership of land at East Leake. This family adopted six horse shoes as their armorial bearings, perhaps, as some think, because Henry de Ferrers was superintendent of the horse-armourers and farriers in the army of the Conqueror.

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INNS OF THE PAST.—The Windmill Inn stood in the garden in front of Brookside Farmhouse. It boasted a sign carved in oak.

The Wagon Inn was situated in the Nook, and its sign post can still be seen.

INSTRUMENTS OF PUNISHMENT.—The Cuckstool was fixed by the brook, opposite the Windmill Inn, but no one remembers its existence.

The Stocks, which were used far into the 19th century, were fixed against the pinfold facing the old Three Horse Shoes Inn.

LOCAL STORIES.

In the 18th century the hills on the North West of the parish were studded with stately oaks. The various owners of land had common rights to this timber, proportionate to their property. As lord of the manor, Sir Thomas Parkyns had considerable rights, which he exercised to the full extent. The parishioners considered that he had largely exceeded his rights, and determined to prevent him from felling more timber. Sir Thomas had sent his men one day from Bunney, and they were engaged in felling, when they found a superior force approaching from East Leake, consisting of the farmers and their labourers. The men of East Leake drove off Sir Thomas' men, and the story goes that this bloodless victory put an end to the depredations.

Another story of the Leake hills is worth preserving. Joseph Burton, the father of the late clerk of the parish Church, used to tell the story, as he had received it from his father, that in 1745, when Bonnie Prince Charlie, the Young Pretender, made his dash upon England, and came as far as Derby, the farmers of the Derwent and Soar valley, fearing for their cattle, drove them South. Many of these were driven, for safety, upon our Leake hills, and for a day or two, until the danger passed, the hills were alive with cattle.

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At this time two or three young men of the village went to Derby—whether to join the Prince, or as sightseers, was not known—and did not return to the village.

The mention of this as a parish clerk's story must be the excuse for reproducing the following from *The Gentlemen's Magazine*, for 1746, p. 421. An indignant person writes thus:—"Nothing of late years has been more abused by the caprice of parish clerks than psalm singing, who are so apt to give out psalms adapted to their own taste that they seem to forget that they are in a Christian congregation. In my parish Church for several months past we have sung hardly anything else but faggots, fire, flame, gibbets, axes, hammers, and all the curses in David's Psalms. The clerk first invokes the congregation to praise God, and then imposes upon them David's curses."

If, as the writer suggests, this spirit was common among parish clerks, the story which is given above may deserve credit, the more so that Joseph Burton's grandfather was probably the clerk at the time of the Young Pretender's invasion. Throsby speaks of this clerk as a venerable man of about four score years at the time of his visit, which may be put in the year 1793. He would consequently be forty-two years of age in 1745.

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CHAPTER XIV.

Hill, Road, and Field Names.

NAMES OF ROADS IN THE PARISH.

Woodgate.—Gate, Scandinavian for street or road.

Milgateway.—Gate and way are equivalent. There are many instances where a modern word is added to an ancient one instead of being substituted for it, as here and in the next word. Copit Hill is another example.

The Streetway } Roman road.[1]
The Portway }

The Crossway.

Redway.

Hadlandway.

Ristway.—Rist may be Middle English for rest, and point to the resting place of the cattle at noon, in the days before the Enclosure.

Boltwong Lane.

Cockshuttway.—Nuttall gives Cockshutt = a net for woodcocks.

Lantern Lane.

Sheepplank Lane.

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(1) See p. 2 and Preface.

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Stocking Lane.
Taft Leys Lane.
The Twitchel.
Poke Lane.—Similar names are met with in many parts of the country. Poke, is thought to be a corruption of pook for Puck, a celebrated fairy, the "merry wanderer of the night."

NAMES OF HILLS.

Sharpley Hill.
Hotchley Hill.
Fern Hill.
Copit Hill.—Anglo-Saxon, *cop*, a hill.
Mill Hill.
Rise Hill.
Bloom Hill.

FIELD NAMES.

The three original fields were Woodgate field, Brickliffe field, and Hill field.

Within these enclosures were the following plots which are grouped thus:—

In Brickliffe Field.

Beast Lays (Leys).
Care Furlong.—Pronounced *Car.* = Either (1) Caer, a castle, or (2) carr, alluvial land.
Upper and Nether Taffs.—The Taffs.
Hall Pike.—cp. the ploughman's pike or pointed piece of land.
The Sike or White Sike pronounced *sick*. Sike is Icelandic for a small stream. The Sike is situated by the brooklet which rises at Rempstone.
Town End Pingle.—Pingle means a small piece of enclosed ground.
Monks Meadow.—? The Chanoynes Hokes of earlier days.
Sallow Furlong.—Derivation, either from Anglo-Saxon *sealh* (Latin salix) a willow, or A.S. *salu*, of a yellow colour.

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The Butts Close.—Probably the site of the old archery grounds, a reminder of legislation of Edward IV.

Castle Close.

Ryholme or Ryham.—*Holm*, a mound or islet (Norse).

Costock Mear.—*Mere*, either the Anglo-Saxon for pool, or boundary.

Brickley.

Sweetleys

Garner Hedge.

Lings Common.—The Heath, before the Enclosure.

Common Meadow.

Brcok Furlong.

Hall Field.

Boar Closes.

Handkerchief Close.

HILL FIELD.

Copit Hill Common.

Blackley Close.

Thorny Balk.—Balk, a ridge of land left unploughed.

Fern Hill.

Boss Lane Close.

Farthing Leys.—Farthing, fourthing or fourth part, from Anglo-Saxon, *feorthing*.

Stone Bridge Close.

Hall Meadow Plank.

The Outroves.

Sharpley Nook.

Parson Thorns.

Sharpcliffe.

The Rist.

Watt Furlong.

Hadland End.

Stoney Well.

Blackley.

Bunney Bush.

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Hoping or Hooping (or Lime Kiln) Common. Probably from Anglo-Saxon, *hop* to encircle.

Bull Piece.

Hotchley.—Perhaps equivalent of High Field.

Maggs Hadland.

Moore Close.

Newlocks.

Bush Close.

Rise Leys Common.

Rise Hill Common.

The Rise.

Botham Close.

Stocking Hole.

Head Common.

Taft Leys.

Fishers Close.

Bolt Wong Lane Close.

First and Second Bolt Wong Close.

Top and Middle Holme.

Bottom Holme.

Rowland's Park.

The Clotter's Close.

WOODGATE FIELD.

Upper and Nether Poke Furlong.

Poke Lane Pingle.

Cheverall Poole.

Little Dale.

Chauke, Chaulke, Cork Ley and Common.—Misspellings for Calke, the Leicestershire Austin Priory.

Loughborough Balk.

Joyce's Bush.

Ryham or Ryholme Close.

Flax Lands.—The field where the compulsory cultivation of flax was carried on, under the Act of 24 Hen. VIII.

Beggars' Park.—*Park* is constantly used as a name for a field. This was called Beggars' Park because, in times

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of distress, the colliers from Coleorton made this spot a meeting place for dividing the spoil obtained by begging.

The Sours.

Twenty Lands.

Debdale Sik.

Crow Meadow.

Lady's Mear.

MEADOW.

Maxley Meadow.

Plain Well Motts Meadow.—Mott may be the equivalent of moot from *gemot*, a meeting. If so this marks the site of the ancient meeting place of the parish, which commonly was near a well or spring.

Risley or Riseley Meadow.

Washing Meadow.

Carrion Nook.—Where dead animals were buried.

Far and Near Holme.

MOOR MEADOW.

Weldoles—mispronounced Weldales. Doles = dools and lot lands, assigned by lot to the inhabitants for grass cutting, or cultivation as the case may be.

Close Nook.

The Whins.

Middle Rigs.

Long Hamms and Short Hamms.—"On the outskirts of the arable lands, where the soil is adapted to the pasturage of cattle . . . one or more stinted pastures or hams were laid out for milking cows, working cattle, or other stock which required superior pasturage in summer."—Marshall, "Treatise on Landed Property," London, 1804.

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Appendix I.

A TERRIER OF GLEBE LANDS AND GREAT TITHE OF EAST LEKE, 1748.

A Schedule or Terrier Mentioning and Declaring all the Glebe Lands Meadow House and so forth in East Leke and within the fields and precints thereof and Belonging to the Rectory of Leke in the County and Diocese of York Examined in the year of our Lord God One thousand Seven Hundred and fforty eight The Reverend Granville Wheler Master of Arts being Rector.

	a.	r.	p.
Imprimis.—One Vicarage House with the Homestead and one Close adjoining to it Containing by estimation three Roods now converted into a fold Yard Stack-yard and Garden	0	3	0
The house three Bays and part of a Bay. The old Barn two Bays, the new erected Barn and Stable consisting of eight Bays, in all thirteen Bays and part Bay.			
The Churchyard three Roods thirty eight Pearch ...	0	3	38

In Woodgate Field.

One ley at Chauke leys by estimation three Roods the Lands of Timo St Nichols formerly on the East side but now in the Possesion of Mr. Thomas Wootton ...	0	3	0
One land in Milgate way two Roods the land of William Fox formerly on the East side but now in possession of Catherine Hickling	0	2	0
One acre Land on the top of Woodgate the Land of Richard Page formerly on the East side but now in possession of Richard Smith	1	0	0
One land Butting on Sheffields headland two Roods formerly John Garner on the West side but now in possession of Edward Harrold	0	3	0
One three Rood land Butting on the Streetway formerly the land of Joseph Butcher on the West side but now in the possession of Edwd Harrold	0	3	0
One acre Land Butting on the Streetway formerly the land of Mr Beavoies on the West side but now in possession of Mrs Wright	1	0	0
Two lands at Loughborough Balk one acre one half formerly the land of Timo St Nichols on the West side but now in possession of Mary Clifton ...	1	2	0

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	a.	r.	p.
One ley and Land on Ryholme two Roods the land of William Mercer formerly on the North side but now in possession of John North	0	2	0
One Rood on Upper Poke-furlong formerly the land of Richard North on the North side but now in possession of John North	0	1	0
One Rood on Nether Poke-furlong formerly the Hall land on the East side but now in possession of Mr Holleys	0	1	0
One Land at Cheverall Poole two Roods formerly the land of Richard North on the West side but now in possession of John North	0	2	0
One Land by the Cross-way two Roods formerly the Hall land on the East side but now in the possession of Mr Holleys	0	2	0
Six lands in Woodgate two acres the Land of Thomas Mugg on the East side but now in possession of Thomas Wootton	2	0	0
One land in Woodgate two Roods formerly the Land of John Quinton on the West side but now in possession of Thos. Angrave	0	2	0
One Rood land in Littledale formerly the Land of Mr Nix on the North side but now in possession of Sir Thomas Parkyns	0	1	0
Two lands two Roods East from the Windmill Mr Angrave's land on the West side and Mr Hardy's land on the East side	0	2	0
The amount of all in Woodgate field by computation some more and some less eleven acres and one Rood ...	11	1	0

In Brickliffe Field.

One land over Ryholme Way three Roods the land of William Wild formerly on the North side but now in Possession of Widow Wild	0	3	0
One Rood land Butting on the Beast lays formerly the land of Timo St Nichols on the South side but now in possession of Danl Woodroffe...	0	1	0
Two land Butting on the Brook one Rood formerly the land of Margt Spencer on the West side but now in possession of Thomas Angrave	0	1	0
One land in Care furlong two roods formerly the land of Jane Spencer on the West side but now in possession of Anthony Ploughright	0	2	0

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	a.	r.	p.
One other land in Care furlong two roods formerly the land of William Mercer on the West side and now in possession of William Mercer	0	2	0
One Rood land Butting on Costock Mear formerly the land of Madam Davis on the North side but now in possession of Mr Hardy	0	1	0
One Rood on Brickliffe formerly the Land of Timo St Nichols on the West side but now in possession of Mr Thompson	0	1	0
One Rood more on Brickliffe formerly the land of Mr Nix on the West side but now in possession of Sir Thos. Parkyns	0	1	0
One Rood more on Brickliffe formerly the land of William Shaw on the West side but now in possession of Sir Thos. Parkyns	0	1	0
One land over Brickliffe two Roods formerly the land of John Mercer on the West but now in possession of Sir Thos. Parkyns	0	2	0
One acre land against Brickliffe two Roods formerly the land of Richard Sheffield on the West side but now in possession of Mrs Wild	1	0	0
One land against Brickly formerly the land of Timo St Nichols on the West side but now in possession of Mary Clifton	0	2	0
One land at Common-Meadow two Roods formerly the land of Mrs Davis on the West side but now in possession of Hugh Hardy	0	2	0
Two leys at town-end two Roods and one Hade at Common-Meadow formerly the Hall land on the East side but now in possession of Mr Holleys	0	2	0
One land Butting on Maxly-Meadow Mr Holleys's land on both sides	0	1	0
One Rood land at the Washings formerly the Hall land on the West side but now in possession of Mr Holleys	0	1	0
Half a Rood ley at the Nether end of the Hall pike against Brickliffe formerly the Hall land East but now in possession of Mr Holleys	0	½	0
One half Rood on the port way formerly the land of Thomas Noton on the North side but now in possession of Thos Clerk	0	½	0
One half Rood at Redway formerly the land of Amos Sheffield on the North side but now in possession of David Sheffield	0	½	0

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	a.	r.	p.
One land on Brook furlong two Roods formerly the land of Israel Cross on the East side but now in possession of Jacob Cross	0	2	0
One land against Horse poole and one on the top two Roods formerly the Hall land on the West side now in possession of Sir Thos. Parkyns	0	2	0
One Rood land on Nether Taffs the land of Sir Thos Parkyns formerly on the South side and now in possession of Sir Thos Parkyns	0	1	0
One Rood land on Upper Taffs formerly the land of Israel Cross on the North side but now in possession of Richard Smith	0	1	0
One land at Sweet leys two Roods formerly the land of Margt Spencer on the North side but now in possession of Thomas Angrave	0	2	0
One Cloven Land on the Taffs three Roods formerly the land of William Smith on the North side but now in possession of Thos. Clark	0	3	0
One Land at Garner Hedge one Rood formerly the land of Thomas Steel on the South side but now in possession of John Steel	0	1	0
One land in the Hall field one Natural Rood formerly the land of Timo St Nichols on the West side but now in possession of Thos Angrave	0	1	0
All in Brickliffe field by computation some more and some less, Ten acres one Rood and a half	10	1	½

In the Hill Field.

One Half Rood in the port way formerly the land of Jane Spencer on the North side but now in possession of William Mercer	0	½	0
One Land at the Stone Bridge two Roods formerly the land of Mr Nix on the West side but now in possession of Sr Thos Parkyns	0	2	0
One three Rood land at the Hall meadow plank formerly the land of Richard North on the West side but now in possession of Jno North	0	3	0
One Rood land at the Hadland way formerly the land of John Woodroffe on the North side but now in possession of Danll Woodroffe	0	1	0

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	a.	r.	p.
One Rood land at the Out-roves formerly the Hall Land on the East side but now in possession of Mr Holleys...	0	1	0
One land at Sharpley nook two Roods formerly the Hall Land on the East side but now in possession of Mr Holleys	0	2	0
One Rood at Parson thorns formerly the Hall Land on the East side but now in possession of Mr Holleys ...	0	1	0
One land under Sharpcliffe two Roods the land of Mr Holleys on the East side	0	2	0
One Rood land over Ristway the land of William Mercer on the North side	0	1	0
One land at the Middle of Sharpley two Roods formerly the land of Sr Thomas Parkyns on ye West side and now in possession of Sr Thos Parkyns	0	2	0
One land at Sweetleys two Roods formerly the land of William Hallom on the West side but now in possession of Mr Hardy	0	2	0
One land under the Rist two Roods formerly the land of Timo St Nichols on the South side but now in possession of Thos. Angrave	0	2	0
Five Roods on Watt furlong the land of William Mercer on the North side	0	5	0
One Rood at ye Hadland End formerly the land of George Mugg on the North side but now in possession of Thomas Wootton	0	1	0
One land on the top of Stoney Well two Roods the land of William Mercer on the East side	0	2	0
One land on the same furlong two Roods the land of Richard North now John North on the East side ...	0	2	0
One land on Blackley two Roods formerly the land of Mr Beaddle on the West side but now in possession of Mrs Wright	0	2	0
One land at Bunney Bush furlong two Roods formerly the Hall Land on both sides but now in possession of Mr Holleys	0	2	0
One land on the same furlong two Roods formerly the Land of Thos Ploughright on the North side but now in possession of Antony Ploughrs	0	2	0
One land at hoping three Roods formerly the land of John Chamberlain on the East side but now in possession of Mr Halloys	0	3	0
One Rood at Cockshutt way formerly the Hall land on the West side but now in possession of Mr Holleys ...	0	1	0

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	a.	r.	p.
One land at the Bull piece two Roods formerly the Hall land on the West side but now in possession of Mr Halleys	0	2	0
One three Rood land against Hotchley formerly the land of Sr Thomas Parkyns on ye East Side and now in possession of Sr Thos. Parkyns	0	3	0
One Rood land against Hotchley formerly the land of Mr Wells on the West side but now in possession of William Mercer	0	1	0
One Rood land against Maggs hadland the land of William Mercer on the North side	0	1	0
One half Rood land on the same furlong formerly the land of Richard North on the South side but now in possession of Jno North	0	½	0
One land against the Moore Close two Roods formerly the land of Richard Angrave on ye West side but now in possession of Sr Thomas Parkyns	0	2	0
One half Rood on the same furlong formerly the land of Widow Earby on the West side but now in possession of Mr Hardy	0	½	0
One Rood ley in Newlocks formerly the Hall land on the South side but now in possession of Mr Holleys ...	0	1	0
All the Hill field by computation some more and some less Twelve Acres two Roods and a half	12	2½r.	

In the Meadow.

One piece of Meadow at the Nether End of Hall Meadow half an acre	0	2	0

Moore Meadow.

Four Poles of Meadow on Weldoles formerly the land of Sr Thomas Parkyns on both sides and now Sr Thos Parkyns	0	0	4
Four Poles of Meadow Over Nottingham Way the meadow of Sr Thos Parkyns on the South	0	0	4
Four Poles at the Close Nook the land of Sr Thomas Parkyns on the West side	0	0	4
Three Poles at the Close Gate formerly Sr Thos Parkyns land on the East side and now in possession of Sr Thos. Parkyns	0	0	3

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Four Poles on the Whins butting on Gotham Moore formerly Amos Sheffield on the East side but now David Sheffield	0	0	4
Four Poles on the Middle Rigs the meadow of William Hallom formerly on the West side but now Mr Hardy	0	0	4
Four Poles on the long hamms the Meadow of Sr Thomas Parkyns formerly on the South side and now Sr Thos Parkyns	0	0	4
Four Poles Butting on Gotham Close the East side being a Hadland	0	0	4
In all in Moore Meadow one and thirty poles, the pole is about three Swathes or Breadth a man makes at one stroke the same being in the whole about four acres beside the running Swath	4	0	0
x Half a Rood ley at the Nether end of the Hall Pike in Brickliffe field against Brickliffe	0	½	0
Two Doles in the Hall Meadow containing about two acres Moveable every year	2	0	0

JOHN NORTH THOMAS ANGRAVE WILLIAM ANGRAVE RICHARD JAMES	Inhabitants.
GRANVILLE WHELER	Rector.
ROBERT COOPER	Curate.
THOMAS WOOTTON JOSEPH MARCH	Churchwardens.

Appendix II.

A TERRIER OF GLEBE LANDS AND GREAT TITHE OF EAST LEKE, 1809.

A Schedule or Terrier mentioning and declaring the Glebe Land, Tythes, Houses, &c., in East Leke otherwise Great Leke in the Fields and precincts thereof and belonging to the Rectory of East Leke aforesaid in the County of Nottingham and Diocese of York examined in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and Nine the Reverend George Holcombe Doctor in Divinity being Rector.

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	a.	r.	p.
Imprimis One Vicarage House build with Bricks in a Wood frame and covered with Thatch containing Three Rooms on the Ground floor and Two Chambers. The lower Rooms are floored with Stone and the Chambers with Plaister without Wainscotting or Ceiling. The Outhouses consist of a Stable of Two Bays measuring nine yards and a half in length and Seven yards and threefourths in Breadth Built with Bricks and covered with Thatch. A Barn of eight Bays measuring Thirty eight yards and threefourths in Length and Six yards and an half in Breadth built and Covered with the like Materials and a Waggon Hovel or Shed measuring in length thirteen yards and an half and Six yards and an half in Breadth built with Bricks and covered with tiles, with the Yard and Garden adjoining containing in the whole by estimation three Roods	0	3	0
An Allotment for the Glebe land and right of Common in the said Fields was laid out by the Commissioners for inclosing the Open Fields and common Grounds of East Leke containing Forty eight Acres two roods and thirty perches or thereabouts situate lying and being in a certain Field called the Woodgate Field Bounded eastwardly by Allotments set out to Samuel Grundy and Matthew Steele Westwardly by an Allotment set out to the Rector of East Leke aforesaid for tythes Northwardly by the Rempstone and Kegworth road by the aforesaid Allotment to the Rector and by an Allotment set out to John Woodroffe Northwestwardly by the Normanton Road and Southwardly by the Lordship of Normanton upon Soar. Which said Allotment laid out as and for a Compensation for the said Glebe Land consists wholly of Arable Land and is fenced with Hawthorn or Quickset Hedges	48	2	30

The undermentioned Allotments were set out by the aforesaid Commissioners as and for a full Compensation for all the Great and small tythes &c. due and payable to the Rector of Great Leke for the time being viz.—

An Allotment containing Eighteen Acres three roods and twenty perches situate lying and being in the aforesaid Woodgate Field Bounded Eastwardly by the aforesaid Allotment laid out for the Glebe Land

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Westwardly drawn to a point Northwestwardly by the Normanton Road and Southwardly by the Lordship of Normanton upon Soar. This Allotment consists of Arable and pasture land	18	3	20
One other Allotment containing Eighteen Acres One rood and Nineteen perches or thereabouts situate lying and being in the said Woodgate Field Bounded Eastwardly by the Kirk Ley Road Northwestwardly by the Nomanton Road and Southwardly by the Rempstone and Kegworth Road. This Allotment consists wholly of Arable Land	18	1	19
One other Allotment containing One hundred and fourteen Acres one rood and twenty six perches or thereabouts situate lying and being in the aforesaid Woodgate Field and Cork Leys Common Bounded Eastwardly by an Allotment set out to Daniel Woodroffe and by an Allotment set out to John Hardy Westwardly by the Lordship of Little Leke Northwardly by the Little Leke Road Southwardly by the Rempstone and Kegworth Road and Southeastwardly by the Normanton Road. This Allotment consists wholly of Arable Land and on it is erected a Barn of two Bays Measuring thirteen Yards in length and Six Yards in Breadth, A Cowhovel or shed twelve Yards in length and Six Yards in breadth And an house of two rooms five yards in Length and Six Yards and one quarter in breadth. All built substantially with Bricks. The house and Barn covered with tiles and the shed unroofed for the purpose of laying Corn thereon ...	114	1	26
One other Allotment containing Twenty nine Acres two roods and thirty six perches or thereabouts situate Lying and being in the aforesaid Woodgate Field and plain well Motts Meadow Bounded Eastwardly by the Lordship of Little Leke and by an Allotment set out to Daniel Woodroffe Westwardly and Northwardly by the Lordship of Little Leke and Southwardly by the Little Leke road. This Allotment consists of Arable and pasture or Meadow Land	29	2	36
One other Allotment containing Eight Acres two roods and four perches or thereabouts situate Lying and being on a certain Common called the Rise Leys Common Bounded Eastwardly by the Bunny and Gotham road Westwardly and Northwardly by the Lordship of			

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Gotham and Southwardly by the Gotham Road. This Allotment wholly consists of Arable Land ...	8	2	4
One other Allotment containing seventy eight Acres three roods and eight perches or thereabouts situate Lying and being in a certain Field called the Moor field and in a certain Meadow called the Moor Meadow Bounded Eastwardly by an Allotment set out to Elizabeth Attenborrow Westwardly and Northwardly by the Lordship of Gotham and Southwardly by the said Lordship of Gotham and by the Bunny and Gotham Road. This Allotment consists of Arable and pasture or Meadow Land	78	3	8
And lastly One other Allotment containing One hundred and forty eight Acres and thirty six perches or thereabouts situate lying and being in certain Lands and Grounds called the Moor field Hotchley hill Common, Rise hill common and Rise Leys common Bounded Eastwardly by an Allotment set out to Sir Thomas Parkyns Baronet and a private Carriage Road called the Moor road Westwardly by the Gotham Road Northwardly by the Bunny and Gotham Road and Southwardly by an Allotment set out to Thomas Hall Esquire. This Allotment consists wholly of Arable Land and thereon is erected a Barn of three Bays Measuring Twenty one Yards and an half in length and Seven Yards in Breadth. A Stable Eleven Yards and one quarter in length and five yards and one quarter in Breadth. An house of two rooms never yet inhabited Five Yards in length and four Yards and one quarter in Breadth. A Waggon hovel or Shed Eight yards in length and five yards and three quarters in Breadth and a piggery Six yards in length by four yards and an half in Breadth. All which buildings are substantially built with Bricks and covered with tiles	148	0	36

Which seven last mentioned Allotments set out by the before mentioned Commissioners for inclosing the Open fields and common Grounds in the Lordship of East Leke aforesaid as and for a full Compensation and satisfaction for all and all Manner of Tythes of Corn Grain Hay Wool and Lambs and all other Tythes both great and small dues and payments of every sort or kind whatsoever arising or renewing or that

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are or may be claimed by the Rector or his Successors in right of the said Rectory within the said parish of East Leke otherwise Great Leke (except Mortuaries Easter Offerings and Surplice fees) containing in the whole Four hundred and sixteen Acres three roods and twenty nine perches or thereabouts are now divided into convenient Closes and fenced in with good sufficient and flourishing Quickset or Hawthorn Hedges	416	3	29
The Church Yard containing three Roods and thirty eight perches or thereabouts is Fenced with good and sufficient Brick and Stone Walls. The Fence to the East and South are kept in repair by the Inhabitants of East Leke aforesaid that to the West by the Right Honorable Lord Rancliff and that to the North by John Hollis Esquire. The Church is repaired by the aforesaid Inhabitants and the Chancel by the Rector of the said parish for the time being. On the Church Yard are growing Two Sycamore trees of the value of Two pounds	0	3	38

The Church contains A pulpit and reading Desk Cloth'd with red Damask Hangings and Cushion, Oak seats for the Congregation and a Gallery for Singers, A Chest to hold the Books &c. In the Desk a Large Bible and common prayer book and one for the Clark. One other large Bible in the Old English Black Letter and a Book of Homilies. The Communion plate consists of a Silver Cup without Inscription and a pewter Flagon and Salver. In the Chancel a Communion Table within a Railing. Also in the Church is a good Stone Font. In the Steeple are three Bells and a Clock.

The Clerk's wages consist of Easter Offerings paid by Custom by the aforesaid Inhabitants.

GEO. HOLCOMBE.
EDWARD SHAW, Minister of East Leke.
DAN^L WOODROFFE } Churchwardens.
W^M MARCER }
JOHN WOOTTON }
JOHN BURROWS } Inhabitants.
THO^S C. ANGRAVE }
WILLIAM LESTER }

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Appendix III.

TRAVELLERS' NOTES UPON EAST LEAKE.

THROSBY in his edition of Thoroton's Notts., published in 1797, writes:—"East-Leke is a large lordship, open field. Principal proprietors Sir Thomas Parkyns, Bart. and a Mr. Hardy, an inhabitant of this place. The King is the reputed lord of the manor. There are 80 dwellings in this village which lies low: the principal inhabitants are farmers. The Church, which is dedicated to St. Mary, has a spire steeple, 4 bells, 2 side aisles, and is kept clean. The seats, or rather benches, in the Church are ancient; on one, under the reading desk, is a good figure of a Pelican, carved, feeding its young. The Clark of the parish, who was rather chatty informed me that he was nearly the same age of his venerable master, who was then 80 years old; and I add with pleasure, old in good works. . . . ."

LAIRD in his notes upon Nottinghamshire in "The Beauties of England and Wales," 1813, describes East Leake as "a large village consisting principally of farm houses; and the Church dedicated to St. Mary is a handsome specimen of the later Gothic, in very good preservation, and having a very handsome turret and spire containing four well toned bells. In the interior which is kept in good order are some ancient benches with curious carvings which seem to have belonged to an older building."

POTTER, T. R., in his "Walks round Loughborough," 1840, writes, p. 89:—"Leaving Stanford Park on the right, and taking the pathway through the plantation across the road, we soon obtain a sight of East Leake. I think it was Dr. Johnson who observed, that a spire placed in a valley reminded him of an *extinguisher*. Leake spire has certainly somewhat that appearance. This village lays claim to great antiquity. It is still a substantial and respectable-looking place, and derives importance from the Nottinghamshire Magistrates holding a Petit Session, the Revising Barristers a Court, and there being a great Statute for hiring servants held here."

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Corrigendum.

Since Chapter I. was written and the map printed, further light has fallen upon the Portway (p. 2). From a careful study of the Terrier of 1748, it is plain that this road traversed the parish, roughly, North and South; for it appears in the Hill Field to the North, and Brickliffe Field to the South. In connection with this, and possibly throwing light upon its direction, Mr. Oldershaw recalls ploughing up a paved way, two fields East of Brook Furlong Farm, which apparently ran from the ford at Sheep Plank Lane to Grange Leys Gap, near the meeting place of Costock, Bunney, and East Leake parishes. It may hereafter be shewn that the Crossway was the place where the Streetway and Portway crossed each other. The Crossway has yet to be located.

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